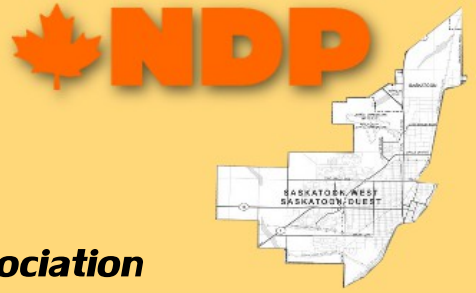


OUR VOICE



Saskatoon West NDP Electoral District Association

Spring 2015

Notice of Annual General Meeting

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The Saskatoon West Annual General Meeting will be held

Location: Station 20 West - 1120 - 20th Street West, Saskatoon

Date: May 9th, 2015

Time: 6:30 PM **REGISTRATION**
7:00 PM **CALL TO ORDER**

All members in good standing of the New Democratic Party residing within the Saskatoon West Electoral District shall be eligible to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting. Anyone on the active membership list can renew at the door. The active membership list will include those having held a membership in 2012 or more recently. Anyone whose last membership was in 2011 or earlier will be considered a new member.

The business of the meeting will be:

- To receive reports from some of the Executive Officers.
- To select members to serve on the Electoral District Association Executive until our next annual meeting.
- Receive a report from the candidate
- Guest Speaker

Come out to meet your candidate, *Sheri Benson*. Hear how the campaign is going, and how you can get involved and be a part of it.

Check us out online

SaskatoonWestNDP.ca



<http://goo.gl/sgm3pl>



Candidate Report



Sheri speaks to a crowd of hundreds about the issues in Bill C-51

The election year is upon us. We find ourselves in a unique moment where together, we can make real and tangible changes to improve the quality of life for people in our community.

"We deserve better," says Sheri. "For years, the voice of this community has been silenced at the federal level. Infrastructure and support systems have been weakened, community programs have been slashed, inequality continues to rise and the cost of living has sky-rocketed. People are working harder but it's also harder to cover the cost of living."

Sheri has been busy putting together a campaign team of staff and volunteers. They are getting

trained on new innovative canvassing technology, developing data collection plans, fundraising and communications materials, and planning how best to connect with the diversity of people in Saskatoon West.

"It's really important to me that we engage as many people as we can in the community," says Sheri. "I want to reach out to people beyond our traditional supporters to include people who have felt they have been excluded, and find ways that they feel encouraged to participate and share their voices."

Sheri has been hearing from people on the doorstep that there is a real urgency to act on issues of childcare, affordable housing, and the crisis of climate change. This requires a strong and committed movement of people who will work together and push for this change.

She encourages everyone to get involved and come to one of their upcoming volunteer training or canvassing activities. You can get involved by contacting her at sheri.benson@ndp.ca or call 306-242-7637 (7NDP).

With the new riding boundaries, there is an increased focus on our urban challenges which brings a greater opportunity to have those challenges addressed.

"I don't want to be part of the generation that passes down a legacy of rising poverty, increasing insecurity for those in retirement, and ignores the voices of Indigenous women and girls," states Sheri.

"We are a wealthy nation. With political leadership, we are capable of creating the conditions that make life affordable, safe, and offer opportunities for all people to thrive. Let's all be that leadership."



Sheri Benson with Erin Weir in Regina-Lewvan, Claire Card in Saskatoon University and Trevor Peterson in Cypress Hills Grasslands

Renew Your Membership

Renew your Membership for 2015:

Online:

http://www.saskndp.ca/join_sask_ndp or

Call: 306-525-1322

Turning the Tide on Harper

The Saskatoon West NDP are moving forward with an energized campaign. In order to maintain this momentum we need volunteer feet on the ground, and financial support from supporters like you.

Times are changing, and public support for New Democrats is building. Recent polls have confirmed that our momentum is growing across the country, especially making gains in western Canada. We would like to invite you to join us, and help contribute to the success of one of the most watched campaigns in the country.

Your contribution to Saskatoon West will stay in Saskatoon West to support your local candidate. We must fund our local campaign without the financial support of the federal party. Your contribution will be eligible for a tax credit, and you can receive up to 75 percent of your contribution back as an income tax refund.

We would like to invite you to consider contributing by Pre-Authorized Chequing (PAC). By completing the enclosed form and sending a void cheque, we would be able to make a monthly withdrawal from your bank account. No more having to remember if you have already donated or not because your donation just comes right out of your bank account. If you prefer your monthly contribution coming off a credit card instead, we can handle that too. Just visit <http://saskatoonwestndp.ca/node/1> and sign up for a PayPal Subscription.

New financing laws in 2015 now allow you to contribute up to **\$1,500**. Be sure to take full advantage of this opportunity for tax savings.

Of course we still accept cheques and money orders payable to "Saskatoon West NDP". Just enclose your cheque in the self addressed envelope, apply a stamp, drop it in the mail and we will look after the rest.

Remember, Tory times are tough times, and we must do what we can to ensure a solid New Democrat victory this election.

Nathan Schneider
Financial Agent
Saskatoon West

Tom Mulcair is Coming!

May 2nd, 2015 at 12:30pm
TCU Place (35 22nd Street East)

RSVP at
<http://www.ndp.ca/rallyforsaskatoon>

To make a contribution send a cheque with the enclosed contribution form and envelope to:

**Saskatoon West NDP
PO Box 7064
Saskatoon, SK S7K 4J1**

**Or make a secure online contribution at:
www.SaskatoonWestNDP.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

Why You Should Oppose Bill C-51

While terrorism is a very real threat in today's modern world, we are often faced with a false choice. Conservatives will tell us we can have freedom, or security, but not both.

Bill C-51 is an anti-terrorism bill which has raised the concerns of people and organizations across the country, notably Bill Sundhu, who served as a judge for the BC Provincial Court and Carol Baird Ellan, the first woman to be appointed Chief Judge of the BC Provincial Court.

"I couldn't just stay on the sidelines anymore. During my career as a judge, I presided over many difficult cases, and I always made sure that anyone with something to say was able to say it. This is a fundamental principle of Canadian justice, and it's under threat from Bill C-51," said Carol Baird Ellan.

When it comes to terrorism investigations, Bill C-51 overrides privacy and other legislative limits to sharing information. C-51 would give the Canadian Security Intelligence Services (CSIS) the power to disrupt potential terrorist plots and give police authority to detain suspects who "may" carry out (as opposed to "will carry" out) a terrorist act. This could extend to striking unions, Aboriginal and environmental activist groups, anti-war demonstrations, etc. Bill C-51 defines anyone who poses a threat to the economy, the political and the diplomatic agenda of the government, as a terrorist. It excludes what it calls "lawful advocacy, protest, dissent and artistic expression". The issue at hand is that the bill does not provide a means to test what is "lawful" and what is not.

Conservative MP Diane Ablonczy displayed the government's contempt of anyone with concerns about this bill on the final day of its hearings. She uses "air quotes" (quotation marks gestured by a speaker's fingers in the air, to indicate that what is being said is ironic or mocking) and dismissed amendments to the legislation which would prevent Canadian judges from authorizing violations of the Charter.

The NDP has introduced a number of amendments to try and balance this legislation. Amendments include: deleting provisions that undermine Canadians' rights and freedoms; adding effective provisions missing from C-51 such as strengthening existing oversight of security and intelligence agencies; and limiting the scope of the Bill by protecting privacy rights and narrowing the information sharing provision to cover only terrorism.

This Bill is dangerous and we must oppose this threat on our freedom and liberties.

Call for Volunteers

We need volunteers for:

- Days of Action
- Canvassing
- Data Entry
- Organizing Events

Please email info@SaskatoonWestNDP.ca

Receive your next issue of *Our Voice* by email.
E-mail info@SaskatoonWestNDP.ca with your request