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Premier of Saskatchewan
Legislative Building
Regina Canada S4S 0B3

April 19, 2016

Steve McLellan, CEO
Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
1630 - 1920 Broad Street
REGINA SK S4P 3V2

Dear Mr. McLellan:

Steve

Thank you for your letter of March 4, 2016, in which you provide suggestions for our annual budget development.

I want to assure you that careful planning and deliberation is always an important part of our budget development process. While there will be difficult choices, we will continue to work hard to keep Saskatchewan strong by keeping taxes low, controlling operational government spending and continuing to invest in much-needed infrastructure projects that will strengthen our economy.

Since 2007, our government has invested \$5.2 billion in Saskatchewan's provincial highway network, resulting in improvements to nearly 10,000 kilometres of highways. The new Highways 2020 initiative will see an additional \$2.7 billion invested in highways over the next four years. This is in addition to funding for construction of the Regina Bypass.

We have also made key investments in our schools, health care system, and throughout the Crown sector, including:

- \$1.2 billion in health care infrastructure for 15 new long-term care facilities, a children's hospital, the Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford, and the new Moose Jaw Hospital;

...2



Steve McLellan, CEO

Page 2

April 19, 2016

- Nearly \$1 billion in education capital for 40 new or replaced schools, 25 major renovations (over half of Saskatchewan's schools have been repaired) and 18 brand new joint-use schools built using a P3 model for Saskatchewan's fastest growing communities; and,
- \$10 billion invested across the crown sector since 2007 to rebuild, upgrade and modernize critical infrastructure, such as our electricity, natural gas, water delivery systems and rural internet.

As we work to fulfill our Plan for Growth, I can assure you that making long-term improvements to infrastructure in Saskatchewan remains a top priority. We know that more needs to be done. We will continue to manage our expenditures carefully and make key investments in support of economic growth and our quality of life to ensure our province continues to move forward.

I have forwarded a copy of my response to the Honourable Kevin Doherty, Minister of Finance, for his information. I appreciate receiving input from the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce as we prepare for the upcoming budget.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,



Brad Wall
Premier

cc Honourable Kevin Doherty
Minister of Finance

