



September 25, 2018

265 Legislative Building  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 0B3

Phone: (306) 787-7388  
Fax: (306) 787-6247  
Email: leader@ndpcaucus.sk.ca

Danielle Chartier, MLA  
Saskatoon Riversdale Constituency  
Official Opposition Critic for Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and SaskEnergy  
265 Legislative Building  
REGINA SK S4S 0B3

Dear Danielle Chartier:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as the New Democratic Opposition Critic for Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and SaskEnergy.

We are two years away from a provincial election and our team of NDP MLAs continues to grow. Everywhere we travel in the province, we hear more people saying it's time for a change. New Democrats are leading that change. Over the next two years, we must continue to point out the failings of the outgoing government while clearly articulating our vision, highlighting our new ideas, and sharing our plans to deliver on them.

Saskatchewan people want and deserve strong representation and accountability from their elected leadership. The harmful choices and lack of transparency we've seen from the current government has led many to lose trust. In your role, you have the opportunity and responsibility to hold this government to the higher standard that Saskatchewan people expect, while championing the policies that will build a better future for Saskatchewan.

Saskatchewan is a province blessed with tremendous wealth. We are the stewards of abundant natural resources and home to caring, innovative, hard-working people. Despite these strengths, and despite a decade of record revenue, the people of our province have been burdened by significant struggles. Debt has grown to nearly \$20 billion, doubling in the last five years. This government continues to hire out-of-province workers while unemployment in the province is at its highest level in years. The Sask. Party's response to difficult times has been to cut health, education, job training, and supports for the most vulnerable, while cutting taxes for the wealthy and well-connected. This approach has been shown, around the world and here at home, to hurt people and slow down our economic recovery.

.. /2



Recycle Here



UNIFOR  
LOCAL 755

We have been told that we have no choice but to accept that we will pay more and get less. New Democrats know better. We understand how to make the investments that will strengthen our economy and improve our lives well into the future. We are ready to lead the change that will see Saskatchewan people enjoying the full benefit of our province's many strengths.

Our next two years will consist of laying the groundwork for an NDP government that delivers real improvements in the lives of Saskatchewan people.

This will include working in the Legislative Assembly and in the community to build strong relationships with leaders in your critic areas and advocate for the best interests of Saskatchewan people.

Despite high rates of depression, suicide, and drug and alcohol addiction, Saskatchewan falls far below the national average in providing supports for people struggling with mental health challenges. Seniors' care in Saskatchewan has deteriorated significantly under the Sask. Party, with crumbling infrastructure, long waiting lists and chronic underfunding. SaskEnergy is a successful Crown Corporation, but the cash-strapped Sask. Party is selling off profitable parts of the business.

As Critic for Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and SaskEnergy, you will be standing up against the harmful choices of the Sask. Party and promoting the New Democratic vision of a better way forward as you:

- Speak up for adequate planning and investments to respond to acute and chronic conditions, prevent suicide, and address the root causes of challenges in mental health and addictions.
- Identify gaps and shortcomings in services and care for seniors and work to build a province where people can age with the dignity and support they deserve.
- Promote the ongoing financial success of SaskEnergy and fight against any Sask. Party efforts to further privatize this profitable public asset.

I am grateful for your commitment to our province and our opposition team. I look forward to working alongside you as we build towards the formation of a New Democratic government that will deliver lasting improvements in the lives of Saskatchewan people.

Sincerely,



Ryan Meili  
Leader of the Official Opposition