Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing’s 2011-12 Annual Report Highlights.

The year in review demonstrates the Ministry’s commitment to the safety of Saskatchewan citizens in a number of ways – from emergency response during times of disaster to keeping communities safe through increased numbers of police officers for both the RCMP and municipal police services.

Measures to alleviate overcrowding in provincial correctional centres and a new, integrated, approach to reducing crime and victimization in Saskatchewan were also features of the important activities undertaken by CPSP to keep our citizens safe.

The Honourable Christine Tell
Minister Responsible for Corrections and Policing

Ministry Overview

The Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing delivers a diverse range of services geared to helping ensure the safety of Saskatchewan citizens.

Adult Corrections delivers a wide range of programs providing for varying levels of offender care, control and supervision within secure institutions and within the community. Programs and services for Young Offenders are administered and delivered in custody facilities and through community programs across the province.

Policing services include oversight of municipal policing through the Saskatchewan Police Commission, the Saskatchewan Police College, Aboriginal policing and the Vehicle Impoundment Against Sexual Exploitation (VISE) program. The provincial policing service contract with the RCMP is managed through this area, as well as regulation of the private security industry, coordination of the Public Disclosure Committee and administration of The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act. As well, the Division administers funding agreements with municipal police services for resources for targeted enforcement initiatives.

The Emergency Management and Fire Safety Division houses several areas that have a specific role in community safety: leadership to fire services, coordination of provincial responders during disasters, oversight of provincial standards for building construction and fire safety and administration of the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network.

The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP) offers financial assistance to communities and individuals experiencing uninsurable losses resulting from a natural or human-caused disaster.

For more information on the Ministry, see www.cpsp.gov.sk.ca or call 306-787-7100
The Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing: Helping Hands When Disaster Strikes

Communities and citizens who don’t have the resources or capacity to effectively prepare against severe weather events, to respond to them, or to coordinate community recovery efforts, benefit from the province’s emergency response resources led by the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.

During the extensive flooding in southern Saskatchewan in spring/summer 2011, the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing coordinated the provincial team responding to this unprecedented emergency. As well as managing provincial resources, CPSP directly provided communities with equipment such as sandbags, sandbag filling machines and water barriers to help residents build berms to reduce the impact of flooding. Supplies of equipment and sandbags were stored in caches near affected communities and were “hot-shotted”, or driven on flatbeds directly to locations where additional resources were required. Recovery support by provincial teams after flood water receded was multi-faceted and included building inspections, information on lake property clean-up, psychosocial support for stressed residents and support with completing applications for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program. Total PDAP claims costs for the series of weather events are estimated at around $100 million.

At the same time as residents in flooded communities were being supported by CPSP, the Ministry’s emergency management staff coordinated the evacuation of more than 1,000 people from northern communities because of wildfires. The June evacuation from Wollaston Lake was a particular challenge because the community is not accessible by road and the airport was intermittently closed because of smoke. Residents were evacuated out of Wollaston Lake during a nerve-wracking, 24-hour operation coordinated by CPSP. Armed Forces aircraft provided transportation.

This government-wide response by the provincial emergency team, as well as hundreds of deployed government employees, provides tangible evidence of the government’s commitment to the safety of Saskatchewan citizens.

Financial Summary

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<th>2011-12 Budget (000s)</th>
<th>2011-12 Actual (000s)</th>
<th>Variance (000s)</th>
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<td>$367,500</td>
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Actual FTEs: 2,218

Our 2011-12 Significant Achievements

...A Safe Place to Live...

Corrections, Public Safety and Policing worked to ensure Saskatchewan continues to be a safe place to live through the following 2011-12 activities:

- **Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime** was released as an initiative by the Province as a way to engage communities in activities that will have a tangible impact on Saskatchewan’s crime rate.
- Use of video conferencing was expanded across the Ministry’s adult and youth correctional facilities. This system enables offenders to make court appearances via video between court houses and correctional centres which significantly reduces inmate transportation time and costs.
- In response to changing building techniques and materials and the needs of contemporary property owners, many of the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program’s (PDAP’s) criteria were updated to include financial assistance for a broader range of items.
- To respond to the critical overcrowding situation in secure adult correctional facilities and to ensure additional bed space for female offenders, CPSP commenced construction of a $13.6 million, 30-bed living unit at the Pine Grove Correctional Centre for women in Prince Albert.

Keeping Promises...

During 2011-12, the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing completed or advanced these mandate commitments:

- Completed the Government’s first-year mandate commitment of providing funding for 120 new police officer positions over four years. Many of these positions form specialized units of RCMP and municipal police officers taking an integrated approach to tackling such criminal activity as organized crime, drug trafficking and Internet predators.
- Fully operationalized the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network that sees all public safety users consolidated onto a single radio telecommunications system. This ensures that all responders to an emergency can communicate with one another which enables faster response time and reduces responder redundancy.
- The Senior Citizens Home Security Program was piloted in Prince Albert. This program sees deadbolts, peep holes and other security devices offered free of charge to low-income seniors. The program will expand to other areas of the province in 2012-13.
- A full review of The Correctional Services Act was conducted and completed in 2011-12. This was one of the actions in response to the External Investigation Team’s 26 recommendations to improve safety and security in secure adult correctional facilities after the August, 2008 escape of six inmates from the Regina Provincial Correctional Centre.