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Media Release

SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATIVE INTERNS AND MLA MENTORS ANNOUNCED FOR 2012

The Hon. Dan D'Autremont, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, today announced the names of the four university students who will participate as legislative interns and the eight Members of the Legislative Assembly who will serve as mentors during 2012. Together, they will participate as part of the annual Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program (SLIP).

The four Saskatchewan Legislative Interns are:

- **Elliott Bourgeault** from Regina, who is completing a double-major (political science and German) undergraduate degree at the University of Regina,
- **Cody Giemi** from Ormiston, who is working towards a Master of Public Administration degree at the Johnson-Shoyama School of Public Policy (University of Saskatchewan),
- **Jason Kiefer** from Drake, who is pursuing an undergraduate political science and philosophy degree at the University of Regina, and
- **Reagan Seidler** from Regina, who is completing an undergraduate economics degree at St. Thomas More College (University of Saskatchewan).

The eight MLAs who have volunteered to serve as mentors to the interns are:

- **Danielle Chartier**, MLA for Saskatoon Riversdale
- **David Forbes**, MLA for Saskatoon Centre
- **Greg Lawrence**, MLA for Moose Jaw-Wakamow
- **Warren McCall**, MLA for Regina-Elphinstone Centre
- **Scott Moe**, MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook
- **Kevin Phillips**, MLA for Melfort
- **Cathy Sproule**, MLA for Saskatoon Nutana
- **Corey Tochor**, MLA for Saskatoon Eastview

The 2012 internship program began in early January 2012 and will conclude at the end of July 2012. Interns are assigned for approximately three months with a MLA from the Government caucus and three months with a MLA from the Opposition caucus.

"I welcome the 2012 Saskatchewan Legislative Interns to the Saskatchewan Legislature", said Speaker D'Autremont, who also serves as patron of the Program.

“I also want to thank the MLAs from both the Government caucus and Opposition caucus who have volunteered to mentor an Intern and to provide them with opportunities to learn, through direct experiences, about the political processes and parliamentary governance of Saskatchewan”. Speaker D’Autremont has had personal experience with the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program in the past by serving as a mentor to Saskatchewan Legislative Interns in 2003, 2006, and 2011.

The Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program is a joint project of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, the University of Saskatchewan, and the University of Regina. The core program, involving the interns’ assignment to MLAs, is funded by the Legislative Assembly. A separate intern-development component, where the interns travel to other jurisdictions (e.g. capital cities in Canada and in other countries) to observe and compare legislative processes, is funded by the two universities and several sponsors (The Co-operators Group, First Canadian Title, SGI, Travel CUTS, and the University of Regina’s Students’ Union). The Program also has partnership arrangements with the Canadian Study of Parliament Group, the Parliamentary Internship Program, the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations, the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, and the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association.

The interns are selected from applications submitted by senior university students and recent graduates. The selection committee – consisting of representatives from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, a former intern, and the program’s Director – reviewed the applications, interviewed candidates, and made the final selection.

During their internship, the Interns are required to be politically neutral and to keep information in confidence as they assist their assigned MLA with research, speech-writing, committee duties, and some constituency work. They are not allowed to do partisan tasks, such as campaigning or fundraising for political parties.

Since its inception in 2002 and including 2012, 46 university students have served as Saskatchewan Legislative Interns and 52 former and current MLAs have served as mentors to these Interns. Former Saskatchewan Legislative Interns are currently pursuing post-secondary degrees or are employed in Saskatchewan and elsewhere in the public service, the professions, business, academics, and community-based organizations.

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Biographies on each of the Interns and the schedule of their assignment to MLA have been attached.

For further information, please contact:

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