



# Sheri Benson

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT // SASKATOON WEST



## In this issue

- 1 Standing Up for the STC and Our Public Transit
- 1 A Leader Among Leaders: Barb Byers
- 2 A Saskatoon Summer: Work and Fun
- 2 Ottawa Watch
- 4 Happening Next in Saskatoon West

*Your Priorities. Your Voice.*

*Fall 2017*

## Standing Up for the STC and Our Public Transit

The Sask Party pulled funding for transit services through the STC in their 2017 provincial budget, citing a lack of profitable routes.

Despite loud public outcry and pressure from opposition party MLAs, MPs, grassroots organizations, and women’s groups, the provincial government shuttered the STC on May 31, 2017.

Saskatchewan has the highest rate of domestic violence in Canada making reliable, affordable, and safe provincial transportation a vital public service for those in rural and isolated communities fleeing abusive relationships.

The STC was never meant to turn a profit. It connected Saskatchewanians with important services and to each other, in an affordable and accessible way. Toronto and other big cities have subways- we had STC.



We must resist the closure of the STC and stand united for our public transit.

In July, MP Georgina Jolibois and I wrote to federal Ministers urging them to reinstate a publicly-owned bus service, and to let them know that women and Indigenous communities will suffer disproportionately from the closure of the STC.

Read our letter at: [sheribenson.ndp.ca](http://sheribenson.ndp.ca) ■



Barb and I at a district labour council community service awards dinner, being goofy. Barb was never above being silly and human. That’s one thing that made her a great leader.

## A Leader Among Leaders: Barb Byers

Canada’s Labour Movement is bidding farewell to a local trailblazer.

After years of fighting for stronger labour laws to protect workers, a robust public service, labour education, and a better future for women in the workplace, Barb Byers retired from her position of Secretary-Treasurer with the

Canadian Labour Congress. Barb was - and still is - a huge inspiration to a generation of young leaders and one of the reasons why I decided to enter into federal politics two years ago!

Thank you for all of your hard work, dedication, encouragement, and leadership over the years!

You’ve made Canada a better place for all! ■

# A Message from Sheri

Dear friends and neighbours,

For many in Saskatoon West, it's getting harder and harder to make ends meet. With the rise of part-time employment, wages and pensions not keeping pace with the cost of living, expensive post-secondary education, and limited affordable housing options for seniors and those living with disabilities, many Canadians are struggling.

We all face unique barriers and challenges, but we can't let our differences divide us. We must look out for each other, build bridges in our community, and ensure that no one is left behind.

Let's stand together for affordable housing, public education, better healthcare, and for human rights.

Our strength lies in working together, and as your MP, I will continue to bring your priorities and your voice to Ottawa.

And last but not least, remember to keep in touch, by phone, email, or good old snail mail. I love hearing from you.



Sheri Benson, MP for Saskatoon West

# A Saskatoon Summer: Work and Fun

When the warm weather finally arrives, our community bursts into life, offering countless cultural events, festivals, and fun for the whole family!

This summer, I was able to meet with so many of you, whether on your doorstep, or out and about in our community.

The role of the federal government in our city isn't always obvious, so I appreciated connecting with amazing groups like Reconciliation Saskatoon, Dundonald Community Association, FASD Network, AIDS Saskatoon, and the Open Door Society, to name a few. Another highlight was meeting the very impressive, talented young people hired through Canada Summer Jobs. As always, the students were doing amazing work and learning lots, too.

Thank you, Saskatoon West, for all the great opportunities to learn from all of you. ■

# Our Community in Photos



August 8th: Rolling through the Saskatoon Ex Parade in this 1964 MG. Thanks Terry Yuzik for driving and letting us use your lovely car!



July 15th: Chatting with cyclists while canvassing! Cycling is a great way to get around in our city, and it's great for the environment, too!



July 28th: Getting tested for Hep C on World Hepatitis Day at the AIDS Saskatoon Community Barbeque. Did you know the Baby Boomers are the most at-risk demographic for Hep C? Detecting the virus early is an important step in the treatment process. Fortunately, getting tested is easy!



August 9th: Hearing from Dallas Pelley about some cool initiatives he works on with Taking IT Global around digital youth engagement!



July 9th: This furry friend wanted to thank me for supporting Bill C-246 to make animal protections stronger in Canada.



August 16th: Picking fresh veggies at the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre's Garden Patch with Mayor Charlie Clark and awesome volunteers!



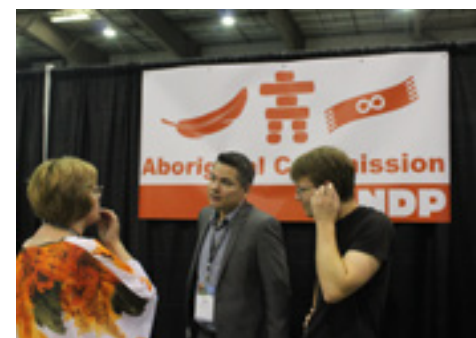
August 20th: Thank you to all the volunteers who came canvassing to talk about the importance of keeping our Crown Corporations public!





July 19th: Visiting with the wonderful folks who work at the Saskatoon Open Door Society! This place is awesome! They provide vital services to new Canadians and refugees by helping with settlement and family services, language training, daycare and employment services, and more. Thanks for being difference-makers in our community!



August 9th: Checking in at SIIT, where I met some of the summer students who were hired through Canada Summer Jobs!



July 26th: Attending the 38th Annual Assembly of First Nations' AGM in Regina. Our government needs to implement UNDRIP, immediately.

 **Twitter:** /sherirbenson  
 **Facebook:** /sheribensonndp



July 12th: Speaking with Niki Ashton while she was in Saskatoon. Niki is a fantastic colleague of mine and I always appreciate her stopping by.



July 15th: Canvassing during a beautiful afternoon in Westview. I appreciated hearing how the closure of STC affects us all.



August 11th: Taking some time to help out at the Summer Snack Program in Pleasant Hill Park with a few friends!



July 19th: Connecting with some wonderful folks at the FASD BBQ. Keep up the great work raising awareness for those with FASD!

# Ottawa Watch

As Parliament resumes in late September, I'll continue working hard to make sure the Liberals follow through on important promises they've made, including: banning asbestos, bringing in pay equity for women in the workplace, increasing safe and affordable housing, pursuing fairness and equity for Indigenous children, and more.

Let me know what important promises you want to make sure the Liberal government follows through on.

With a lot to look for in the coming months as I head back to Ottawa, don't forget to sign up for regular updates!



# I Want to Hear From You

What are your priorities?

- Fair trade deals
- Affordable housing
- Increasing wages
- A clean environment
- Please send me regular e-updates

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth (YY-MM-DD) \_\_\_\_\_

Am I on the right track for Saskatoon West?

- Yes, you are on the right track.
- No, see feedback below.

Feedback and additional priorities:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Happening Next in Saskatoon West

**OCT 03** **Spotlight on Seniors hosted by: Saskatoon Council on Aging**  
Tuesday, October 3rd: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM  
(\$10 entry) @ TCU Place in the Grand Salon

*Spotlight on Seniors will help to promote a healthy, vibrant and exciting lifestyle for older adults.*

**OCT 14** **Day of Action: Canvass for Pharmacare!**  
Saturday, October 14th: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
@ 904E 22nd Street West

*Fight back against the rising cost of prescription medications and push for a national pharmacare program!  
RSVP: [sheribenson.ndp.ca](mailto:sheribenson.ndp.ca)*

**NOV 11** **Remembrance Day Ceremony**  
Saturday, November 11th, 2017  
@ Montgomery Park

*Join me for a day of remembrance and to give thanks to those who have sacrificed so much for our country.*

**DEC 19** **Holiday Open House**  
Tuesday, December 19th: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
@ 904E 22nd Street West

*Join me and my staff for some holiday cheer, snacks and chats!*

## Contact Me

### In Saskatoon:

904 E 22nd Street West  
Saskatoon, SK S7M 0S1

Telephone: 306-975-6555

### In Ottawa:

Sheri Benson, MP  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6

Telephone: 613-992-1899

### Online:

[Sheri.Benson@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Sheri.Benson@parl.gc.ca)  
[sheribenson.ndp.ca](http://sheribenson.ndp.ca)

## Here to Serve You

### In Saskatoon, I'm here to help with:

- Employment Insurance
- Citizenship & Immigration
- Canada Pension Plan/Old Age Security/ Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Veterans Affairs
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Student Loans

### In Ottawa, I can help with:

- Policy questions
- Submitting petitions
- Accessing information
- Contacting government departments and writing to Ministers
- Attending Question Period and visiting the House of Commons

### Contact me in Ottawa or Saskatoon to:

Volunteer // Arrange meetings // Invite me to events

## Pets of Saskatoon West Photo Contest!

Submit your photos to [sheribenson@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sheribenson@parl.gc.ca) by 11:59 PM on September 30th to earn your pet a starring role in my 2018 calendar!

### The rules:

Entrants must be residents of Saskatoon West // Maximum 3 photo submissions per entrant // The submission must be the entrant's original creation and owned 100% by the entrant // Digital files only // Submission of a photo constitutes your acceptance of its use in the calendar

CUT HERE

NAME

EMAIL

ADDRESS

CITY/TOWN

POSTAL CODE

no  
postage  
required

**Sheri Benson**  
Member of Parliament  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0A6