

**Backgrounder – Chiefs of Staff
November 27, 2007**

**Elaine Smith - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Advanced Education,
Employment and Labour**

- Ms. Smith is a highly skilled professional with more than 30 years of supervisory and management experience in both the public and private sector.
- She is a senior businesswoman from Manitoba and recently served as Safety Director for the Service and Hospitality Association of Saskatchewan.

Tim Highmoor - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture

- Mr. Highmoor holds a Masters of Science in Agriculture Economics from the University of Saskatchewan.
- He recently served as a Policy Analyst for Alberta and Saskatchewan beef producer organizations.

**Rob Nicolay - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Corrections, Public Safety
and Policing**

- Mr. Nicolay holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan.
- He recently served as a lawyer in Saskatoon with McDougall Gauley and practiced in the area of civil litigation, aboriginal law and labour law.

Wayne Back - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Education

- Mr. Back holds a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instructional Leadership from the University of Oregon and a Post Graduate Diploma in Educational Administration from the University of Regina.
- Prior to his appointment, he served as the Regional Director of Education for Saskatchewan Learning.

Bill Cooper - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Energy and Resources

- Mr. Cooper holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Regina.
- He has served as a Research Officer with the Saskatchewan Party Caucus.

Bill DeRosier - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Environment

- Mr. DeRosier holds a Bachelor of Science, a Bachelor of Education and a Masters of Education, all from the University of Saskatchewan.
- He most recently was the Principal of Thom Collegiate in Regina.

Dick Carter - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Finance

- Mr. Carter is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta and a Fellow of the Institutes of Chartered Accountants of Saskatchewan.
- He served as a senior partner with KPMG for more than thirty years and more recently has held the role of Chief Financial Officer with a Canadian company.

Cathe Offet - Chief of Staff to the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations

- Ms. Offet most recently served as a consultant in the travel industry in British Columbia.
- She has previously worked as a Ministerial Assistant in two provinces.

Kelly Gallagher - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Government Services

- Mr. Gallagher holds a Bachelor of Political Science from Carlton University and a Bachelor of Science from Texas State University.
- He has both public and private sector experience across Canada. He has held government positions in Ottawa and in British Columbia and Saskatchewan and also as an entrepreneur in Regina where he was a partner in a communications business.

Perry Martin - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Health

- Mr. Martin has significant experience in the development and management of healthcare policy through various senior positions he has held in both Ottawa and Queens Park in Toronto.
- He has served on the Ontario Cancer Care Board of Directors and has a Bachelors degree from Brock University.

Al Nicholson - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Enterprise and Innovation

- Mr. Nicholson is an executive with diversified experience in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors as well as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- He has served as the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Heritage Park Historical Village in Alberta and has held a number senior executive positions and directorships in a variety of organizations across western Canada.

Denise Batters - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Justice

- Ms. Batters is an experienced Regina-based lawyer who was admitted to the Saskatchewan Bar in 1995. Her practice has focused on areas of civil litigation, family law and residential real estate.

- She is an active member of the business community through directorships and involvement in the Regina Women's Network and the Regina and District Chamber of Commerce.

Doug Line - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Municipal Affairs

- Mr. Line is an experienced manager with a background in the construction industry overseeing large projects and most recently managing one of North America's largest geographic emergency and protective service projects.
- He has a Certificate in Administration and is currently completing his Executive MBA at the Kenneth Levene School of Business in Regina.

Darrin Banadayga - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Social Services

- Mr. Banadayga is an experienced manager from the Saskatchewan education system where he has served as both a Principal and a school administrator.
- He has degrees from the University of Regina and from the University of Saskatchewan as well as a post graduate diploma in education administration.

Nancy Martin - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport

- Ms. Martin has more than 30 years of professional experience in various client relations capacities for the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.
- She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario and most recently served as the Executive Director of the Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils (OSAC).

Clay Reich - Chief of Staff to the Minister of Highways and Infrastructure

- Mr. Reich has been a successful entrepreneur and business owner in the service industry in Saskatchewan for the past 16 years.
- He studied at Mount Royal College in Calgary. In addition to various service and volunteer activities, he is a holder of the Canadian Securities Course designation.