



## News Release

For Immediate Release

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### **Largest Taxpayer Group gives Saskatchewan Budget a C+**

Today the organization that speaks on behalf of more Saskatchewan taxpayers than any other group in the province gave the 2006 Saskatchewan budget a passing grade.

Saskatchewan Federation of Labour President, Larry Hubich said, "Through our affiliated and non-affiliated unions and on behalf of more than 120,000 'real' Saskatchewan taxpayers and their families, I offer a passing grade of C+ to the Finance Minister and provincial government on the 2006 - 2007 budget released today."

Hubich said one of the areas that brought the grade down a few points was the governments' insistence on bringing in across the board corporate tax cuts.

"We could have supported targeted tax incentives in certain areas, but we would base such incentives on demonstrated corporate performance. Sort of a 'pay for performance' regime or an 'incentive based' plan for business," Hubich said. He added, "You know - if you do this, you get this. Not simply putting the money up first, and hoping business will respond positively."

The Federation of Labour is pleased that the government will devote more resources to Advanced Education and Employment through a variety of Education and Skills training initiatives.

The SFL believes the government should have paid more attention to the Alternative Budget produced by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives than to the recommendations of the Vicq Commission which called for sweeping corporate tax cuts.

"The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour is generally supportive of the budget, although it does fall short in a few areas," he said. "Once we have had an opportunity to more closely analyse all of the budget documents we will, no doubt, have more to say", Hubich concluded.

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