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March 31, 2023

The Honourable Donna Harpauer Minister of Finance Room 312, 2405 Legislative Drive, Regina, SK, S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Harpauer,

Re: NSBA Letter regarding 2023-24 Provincial Budget

As a member-driven organization serving, promoting, and protecting businesses throughout Saskatoon and beyond, we commend you and your colleagues on your recently announced provincial budget for 2023-24. The 2023-24 budget is a good indicator that the provincial economy is on its way to tremendous economic growth.

Over the years, our organization has always been a strong advocate for a balanced budget and this year's budget addresses that, for which we applaud you for working towards to avoid large deficits that increase the debt of the province.

Aside from the balanced budget and surplus presented in this year's budget, the NSBA is pleased to see support for the mining industry and other business sectors. We welcome the 20 per cent increase in the Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration Tax Credit, the Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive program (\$4M), Economic Development expenditures for increased Immigration (\$5M), and \$2M for the Film and TV Tax credit.

While we commend and applaud you for the feel-good budget, as referenced in our press release on March 22, 2023, we would like to note our concern about resuming the 1 per cent small business tax effective June 1, 2023. Though the increase is not largely significant, its suspense has helped numerous small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy, thrive through difficult times. That being said, we encourage you to extend the resumption of the small business tax as done in the previous year.

The NSBA appreciates your continued efforts in moving the province forward and hopes you and your colleagues continue to make decisions that will lead to more growth that works for everyone.

If you have any questions, I would be pleased to address them in a future discussion.

Sincerely,

Keith Moen

Executive Director

NSBA – Saskatoon's Business Association

Cc: The Honourable Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan