

The Canadian Scene

New Saskatchewan Speaker

On March 12, Saskatchewan Party MLA **Mark Docherty** was elected Speaker of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly. Speaker Docherty replaces **Corey Tochor** who resigned in January to seek the federal Conservative Party's nomination in the Saskatoon-University riding.

Seven MLAs (including **Glen Hart, Delbert Kirsch, Warren Michelson, Eric Olauson** and **Colleen Young** of the Saskatchewan Party, and **Danielle Chartier** of the NDP) sought the Speaker's role. Docherty, who represents Regina Coronation Park, won on the fifth ballot.

Docherty was escorted to the chair by Premier **Scott Moe** and Official Opposition leader **Ryan Meili** (both of whom newly assumed their positions). Donning the Speaker's tricorn hat and robes, Docherty joked, "That was the reason why I ran."

Prior to his political career, Docherty earned a Bachelor of Science, a Bachelor of Human Justice, and a Masters of Social Work and taught courses at the University of Regina and Saskpolytec. A decorated athlete, Docherty was an active lacrosse, rugby and handball player and competed internationally in triathlon competitions. He was also heavily involved in many community organizations, including a tenure as director of Dales House, which offers services to troubled youth.

First elected in 2011, Docherty has served as Saskatchewan's Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport, Minister responsible for the Provincial Capital



Hon. Mark Docherty

Commission, and Legislative Secretary for Disability Issues and Legislative Secretary to the Premier (Immigration and Culture).

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*As of March 30, 2018

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