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## **SASKATCHEWAN CANCER AGENCY**

### **DAY OF THE MAMMOGRAM: EARLY DETECTION IS YOUR BEST DEFENCE**

For 25 years the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's screening Program for Breast Cancer has been helping save lives by providing screening mammograms. This year, October 21<sup>st</sup> has been designated as the Day of the Mammogram to encourage women to book an appointment for screening.

"October is widely known as Breast Cancer Awareness Month" said Scott Livingstone, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency. "But we want to do more than just bring awareness; we want to support women aged 50 and older in getting regular screening mammograms every two years."

Approximately 75 per cent of breast cancers diagnosed through the screening program are early stage. When cancer is found in its early stages the outcome is generally better for patients. Approximately 200 cancers are diagnosed through the program annually.

"Screening and early detection is one of the best defences against cancer for women," Livingstone said. "I'm proud of our long history of breast cancer screening and of reaching this milestone of 25 years of helping save lives."

Over the last 25 years 828,799 mammograms have been performed through the Screening Program for Breast Cancer.

In 2015, approximately 710 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in Saskatchewan and an estimated 160 people will lose their life to the disease.

To book a mammogram, women can call 1-855-584-8228 or visit [www.saskcancer.ca](http://www.saskcancer.ca) for more information.

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