1-2-2022

## Reminders

## Target Sector Support Submission Deadline

Municipal Revenue Sharing is an integral part of strengthening municipalities across rural Saskatchewan. Funding such as the Targeted Sector Support Initiative helps to support inter-municipal cooperation resulting in more effective community governance.

The Steering Committee is now accepting applications for funding through the Targeted Sector Support Initiative. Please note that the deadline for submissions is **Tuesday**, **February 1**, **2022** at **5** p.m.

**Learn More** 

# Saskatchewan Environmental Code Transfer Station Chapter Consultation

The Solid Waste Management Strategy (the "Strategy") was launched publicly on January 23, 2020, as a starting point to provide a practical and sustainable solid waste management system in Saskatchewan.

The Strategy outlines goals and commitments that will move the province towards a practical, sustainable, integrated solid waste management system that protects the environment and promotes economic development and innovation opportunities.

The commitment that this public engagement focuses upon is for the Ministry of Environment to develop a new *Saskatchewan Environmental Code (the "code")* chapter for transfer stations for implementation in 2022-23.

A new code chapter for transfer stations aims to provide legal requirements and concise guidance to reduce administrative burden associated with permitting and reporting of these waste disposal grounds/facilities.

The Ministry of Environment is currently seeking feedback on a proposed new transfer station chapter for inclusion in the Saskatchewan Environmental Code.

For more information regarding

Please submit your response to

the draft of code being considered, the discussion paper, survey and more, please visit:

the survey or written comments no later than **February 5, 2022** to the Ministry of Environment via:

Online survey:

**Learn More** 

**Take Survey** 

Your participation is voluntary and responses are confidential. You can leave the survey at any time. This survey should take around 30 minutes to complete.

The Government of Saskatchewan will not be responding to individuals or organizations that participate. However, the ministry will review the responses and report back on what we heard. This report will be emailed to stakeholders and posted on the Government of Saskatchewan website in early 2022.

#### Written submissions or questions can be sent:

Ministry of Environment Environmental Assessment and Stewardship Branch Attn: Transfer Station Chapter Public Consultation 4th Floor, 3211 Albert Street REGINA SK S4S 5W6

**Email:** waste.management@gov.sk.ca, using the subject heading Transfer Station Chapter

## RM Input on Oil and Gas Tax Arrears and Writeoffs

Increasingly oil & gas companies are defaulting on their tax payment obligations for municipal and education purposes, thus forcing both governing bodies to lower the level of service to their ratepayers.

At SARM's midterm convention there were three resolutions passed asking SARM to lobby the Provincial government for tax tools to help municipalities collect on these tax arrears and write-offs.

As part of our lobbying effort, SARM would like to present some hard figures to back up our claims when speaking to government officials around the depth of this issue. In order to do this, we are asking for RM's to provide some figures from their experience with oil and gas arrears.

On **January 24**<sup>th</sup>, a survey (linked below) was distributed to all RM's asking for data on tax arrears and write-offs from oil and gas accounts. A guide to assist in the gathering of the information required to help build our case is linked below. (These instructions are for those who use MuniSoft software only)

The requested information will be for oil and gas tax arrears totals and oil and gas tax write-off totals for the below year-ranges:

2010-2013 2014-2017 2018-2021

We understand that this will take some time to complete the work, however this will be invaluable information to take forward in our lobbying effort and effectively highlight the concerns that many RMs have expressed in supporting the resolutions regarding Oil and Gas tax arrears.

Our hope is to compile the results from RM's across the province and be able to show an accurate representation of the problem that exists and the strain that it is putting on RM's due to the lost revenue. We also intend to share our findings with RM's once the surveys are completed.

Should you have any questions or concerns relating to the aforementioned, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Brian Rakochy (P: 306-761-3735 or E: brakochy@sarm.ca) or Ms. Deanna Nichols (P: 306-761-3947 or E: dnichols@sarm.ca).

Deadline to submit is **end of day February 7<sup>th</sup>,2022**.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter of importance for our membership.

**MuniSoft Guide** 

**Take Survey** 

**Survey Preview** 

## Information

## How you and your Community Benefit from Census Data

For over a century and a half, Canadians have relied on census data to see how the country is changing, and focus on the issues that matter to them.

The most recent census completed in 2021 will provide a treasure trove of data about the Canadian population, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how our country has evolved in the past five years. These data can be used by businesses, non-profit organizations, governments and individuals to understand their communities and make informed decisions.

Are you wondering how you and your community can benefit from census data?

Here are some traditional and innovative ways:

- Business planning—census data may serve as the foundation for creating a viable business plan, analysing target markets, and pivoting businesses during the pandemic. It can be used to conduct an environmental analysis and help understand the local market.
- Choosing the community to live in—home listing services rely on census data to provide perspective home buyers with important demographic information about their communities and help them make the right choice

- that will accommodate their specific lifestyle.
- Academic research—thousands of academics, educators and students rely on census data to conduct research, data analysis and develop recommendations.
- Government program and service planning—thanks to census data, municipal, provincial and federal governments are able to offer support services and programs that are tailored to their residents, such as child care, schools, family services, housing, skills training for employment centres and retirement residences.
- Infrastructure—with census data, community organizations and local authorities can propose evidence-based planning and infrastructure projects that meet your neighbourhood's needs.
- Public transportation—the census collects information about commute times and public transit use, which can be used to create new bus/train/subway routes and active transportation trails, bike or pedestrian lanes, as well as recreational paths near you.

As of February 9, 2022, Statistics Canada will start releasing population and dwelling count census data. Subsequent releases throughout 2022 will focus on Canada's shifting demographic profile; families and households; military experience; income; linguistic diversity; First Nations people, Métis and Inuit; housing; citizenship and immigration; the ethnocultural and religious composition of the population; education; and the labour force.

Statistics Canada strives to make census data and analyses user-friendly and accessible to all Canadians. For more information about data release topics and timelines, please visit the **2021 Census dissemination planning** web page. They are also releasing a new Apple and Android mobile app—StatsCAN—that provides interesting perspectives and analysis based on census data. Find more information on census data on the **Census of Population** web page of the Statistics Canada website.

**Learn More** 

## Canada & FCM Invest in Stronger Asset Management in Saskatchewan Communities

On January 27, 2022 Federation of Canadian Municipalities released the following article:

From roads and buildings, to wastewater systems – strong asset management is key to building stronger communities. Municipalities of all sizes need tools and resources to make evidence-based decisions that support long-term asset management and build a healthier, safer and more prosperous future for all Canadians.

That is why the Government of Canada is investing over \$1.45 million in 38 Saskatchewan communities through the Municipal Asset Management Program (MAMP), delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). As Canada moves toward a strong recovery, these projects will help communities make data-driven decisions about key infrastructure and ensure long-term

infrastructure performance.

With funding from MAMP:

- The Rural Municipality of Waverley No. 44 will complete an asset management program that will involve the physical inspection and evaluation of culverts and roadway assets. The program will include condition assessments, valuations, life-cycle analysis and projected replacement cost of each asset. The asset management plan will aid in decision-making when implementing asset maintenance and replacement programs and assist the Rural Municipality in future capital planning.
- The Town of Porcupine Plain will set up an asset management framework that will include an updated policy and strategy, as well as development of a roadmap and plan to focus on road, water and sewer networks, and building asset classes. The Town will also train staff to improve in-house asset management capacity.
- The City of Martensville will assess asset condition of roads, sidewalks & curbs, pathways, sanitary sewers, and storm water infrastructure and compile digitally existing assets condition information. The comprehensive drainage review will include development of a storm model for the city and the creation of the asset management program will provide a comprehensive plan to manage all asset classes and provide recommendations for the establishment and ongoing work of the city's asset management program.

**Learn More** 

### Resources

## Active Transportation Fund - Call for Applications

On January 27, 2022, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, *opened the call for applications* for the Active Transportation Fund, as well as other new funding opportunities in support of public transit systems.

Infrastructure Canada will be accepting applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund between January 27, 2022 and March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST. Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

The Active Transportation Fund's goal is to generate economic, environmental and social benefits for Canadians by increasing the amount, quality and usage of active transportation infrastructure.

If you are an eligible recipient with a project that will support a modal shift away from cars and towards active transportation, we invite you to submit your application through the *Applicant Portal*. To assist potential applicants in determining eligibility and preparing an application, guidance materials are available on *Infrastructure Canada's website*, including:

- *General information* on the Active Transportation Fund, which includes applicant and project eligibility requirements;
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions;
- Instructions on *how to apply*, including:
  - The Applicant Guide; and
  - The **Step-by-Step Guides** for submitting an application.

Infrastructure Canada will be hosting weekly Webinars for interested potential applicants, beginning on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. At these webinar sessions, attendees will be provided with details on applicant and project eligibility, the application process, and the evaluation process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. A list of available sessions and links to register are available on the *Webinars for Potential Applicants* page.

The Active Transportation Fund team welcomes you to contact them in regard to any questions you may have about the Active Transportation Fund or the application process by sending an email to *ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca*. Please be advised that they will not be able to provide information on project eligibility until an application is received in full through our project intake process.

**Learn More** 



## ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge

The Community Better Challenge is a month-long physical activity challenge that brings communities together with physical activity and sports participation. Now more than ever, community members are looking for an opportunity to reconnect with each other and re-engage with their community.

The annual challenge is open to all communities and individuals, ultimately recognizing *Canada's Most Active Community* and awarding the local municipality \$100,000 to support local physical activity initiatives. Secondary prizes for the Most Active Community in each province and territory will also be awarded up to \$15,000.

To support you, ParticipACTION has created a micro-grant program. Municipalities, community organizations, schools, sports clubs, and workplaces can **apply between January 17 and February 21** to receive up to \$1,500 to support activities that get your community active.

In addition to the regular grant funds available, we are thrilled to announce that Sport Canada has provided an additional \$60,000 to support multi-sport projects that exclusively engage women and girls through the Gender Equity Fund.

**Learn More / Apply** 

Reach Out To

View Our Programs

View Our Resources



(306) 757-3577 | sarm@sarm.ca | www.sarm.ca





8-2-2022

## Reminders

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## Feedback

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#### **Our Webinars**

SARM offers webinars for members on a wide range of helpful topics. Not only can you participate in these live, but you can also have them as a resource to view again when it's convenient. Past topics have included:

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- Municipal Safety Manual
- Civic Addressing
- Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities
- Tendering and Procurement Best Practices
- Mental Wellness in Agriculture Fostering Resiliency
- Nuclear Power in Saskatchewan
- Principles for Positive Employment Relations
- And more

#### **Future Topics**

Let us know what you would like to hear about in 2022!

Please complete our short survey to provide your input on a variety of potential webinar topics.

**Visit our Webinars Library** 

**Take the Survey** 

### National Park Urban Dialogue

Insightrix Research, based in Saskatoon, is hosting an online community on behalf of the Meewasin Valley Authority to gather feedback, viewpoints and insights around the potential for a National Urban Park in Saskatoon.

You have been invited to join the online community to contribute to discussions on this topic. By joining, participants have the ability to inform the design of a potential Urban Park framework that would best represent local and regional interests. Participants will be asked for thoughts and opinions about the vision, mission and guiding principles for an Urban Park the Saskatoon region, potential boundaries and governance structure for this model. The conversation will be moderated over a four-week period by Insightrix and will help inform the next phase of consultation and development.

This Dialogue is not anonymous, and participant identities will be visible to others in the community. After the completion of these discussions, Insightrix will produce a report to Meewasin that will summarize themes, findings and recommendations from each dialogue. Individual comments and ideas will remain anonymous.

#### How does it work?

- Participants are invited to register for the online community by creating a unique, password-protected login followed by answering a few questions to help us get to know our participants.
- You will be asked to review background information about the potential National Urban Park in preparation for the online discussions.
- Questions will be posed through short surveys and moderated online discussions. Participants are invited to respond and interact with one another as we explore various topics.
  - The platform adapts to the device used.
  - Participants can login to the online community whenever / wherever is convenient for them. We ask that you respond to new discussion questions or surveys within 24 hours to ensure we stay on track.
  - Participants can reflect and go back or add to their responses.
  - Participants can answer with text, video, pictures or weblinks.
- Participants will receive notification emails when new discussion questions or activities are available.

#### Join the National Urban Park Dialogue Now!

Please click the link below to join. Once you click on the link, you will be directed to a page to create your password. After that, the first step will be to fill out a short survey to tell us about yourself

Welcome to the National Urban Park online community!

**Join the Dialogue** 

## The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999 Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Swimming Pool Regulations*, 1999 and associated policies and procedures. The Ministry of Health is interested in any ideas you may have for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999
- Swimming Pool Design and Operation Standards
- Whirlpool Design and Operational Standards

#### See below message from the Ministry of Health:

Dear Stakeholder:

The reduction of red tape and regulatory burden is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Red tape impacts all residents and businesses and reduces the efficiency of government. Inconsistent, unclear, out-of-date and duplicative regulations create hardship for Saskatchewan people and business and act as barriers to economic growth.

As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Swimming Pool Regulations*, 1999.

The survey period is open between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50140327/Swimming-Pool-Regulations

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Stevens at **Shawna.Stevens@health.gov.sk.ca**.

**Take the Survey** 

## The Health Hazard Regulations Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Health Hazard Regulations* and associated policies and procedures. We are interested in any ideas you may have for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- The Health Hazard Regulations
- Saskatchewan Personal Service Facility Best Management Practices

#### See below message from the Ministry of Health:

Dear Stakeholder:

The reduction of red tape and regulatory burden is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Red tape impacts all residents and businesses and reduces the efficiency of government. Inconsistent, unclear, out-of-date and duplicative regulations create hardship for Saskatchewan people and business and act as barriers to economic growth.

As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Health Hazard Regulations*.

The survey period is open between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50140324/Health-Hazard-Regulations

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Wayne Johnson at **Wayne.Johnson@health.gov.sk.ca**.

**Take the Survey** 

# Royal Saskatchewan Museum Teams Up with University of Regina on Owl Research

The Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) and the University of Regina have begun work on a research project involving great horned owls that includes a unique citizen science component.

If you see a great horned owl, they want to know.

"Great horned owls are one of the most common owls in Saskatchewan," Royal Saskatchewan Museum Curator of Vertebrate Zoology Dr. Ryan



Fisher said. "Populations of great horned owls in southern Saskatchewan have been increasing in recent years and we are interested in how human modifications to the landscape have allowed this bird to be so successful."

The University of Regina has developed a *form* that Saskatchewan residents can use to report their great horned owl sightings.

In southern Saskatchewan, great horned owls have shown remarkable adaptability and now occupy and nest in trees that were planted around farmyards, abandoned buildings and other human-made structures.

In addition, these owls also rely on elevated perches such as power poles, fence lines and planted trees to hunt from.

"This adaptability is what makes these birds really unique, as this is one of only a handful of species that seem to do well in human-modified areas," Dr. Fisher said. "Part of the project revolves around public participation and collaboration in the research, or citizen science - by having people share and contribute to data monitoring and collection."

Dr. Fisher said they are interested in sightings outside of cities and south of the tree line in the agricultural zone (grassland and aspen parkland).

"This is just some of the innovative research taking place behind the scenes at the RSM," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "The RSM is truly a centre for excellence when it comes to research, in addition to the incredible exhibits and education programming, there is always something new to discover!"

With great horned owls starting to nest soon (late February and into March), the next couple months will be a key time to get data from people. Owls are

extremely sensitive to disturbance, so please take great care when looking for them and try to keep as much distance as possible between you and the owl.

There are some excellent guidelines *online* to reduce your impact on birds. The project will run until 2023.

To learn more about the Royal Saskatchewan Museum's programming and world class research, visit <a href="https://royalsaskmuseum.ca/">https://royalsaskmuseum.ca/</a>, Facebook

(@ royalsaskmuseum), Twitter (@ royalsaskmuseum), Instagram

(@ royalsaskmuseum), and

YouTube https://www.youtube.com/royalsaskmuseum.

Visit. Donate. Discover.

Note: Visitors 12 and older must be fully vaccinated or have a negative Covid-19 test to visit the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Visit the Government of Saskatchewan website for further information about how to obtain proof of vaccination and the latest COVID-19 information.

For more information, contact:

Jamie Gibson Parks, Culture and Sport Regina

Phone: 306-527-8152

Email: jamie.gibson2@gov.sk.ca

**Learn More** 

**Submit Form** 

## Information

## Irrigation Program Application Deadline Extensions

The Ministry of Agriculture values its relationship with stakeholders and the feedback they receive from industry.

The Ministry of Agriculture would like to update you on changes to the Irrigation Program deadlines that have been implemented to address concerns from industry that the application deadline was too early, and irrigators are experiencing delays in completing projects within the current program timelines due to a variety of factors. To bridge the gap between the end of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and the Next Policy Framework, the deadline for irrigation projects has been extended.

- The deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from Jan. 15, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.
- The deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from Aug. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.

Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under either program. The ministry is engaging with the industry to

develop options for the projects where construction will carry over pass March 31, 2023.

Information about the existing Irrigation Program can be found at *Saskatchewan.ca/CAP*. Applicants should be encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Dianna Emperingham, Executive Director of Crops and Irrigation or Mark Anderson, Executive Director of Programs.

#### **Contact information:**

#### Mark Anderson

Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Programs Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 329 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1
Mark.anderson@gov.sk.ca

#### Dianna Emperingham

Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Crops and Irrigation Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 101 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1
dianna.emperingham@gov.sk.ca

**Learn More** 

## Resources

## Ministry of Agriculture 2022 Winter Lease Auction

The Ministry of Agriculture announced that it has Crown lands that are available for lease through public auction hosted by McDougall Auctioneers Ltd..

The auction opened on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 and has staggered close dates of February 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

To view the Winter Lease Auction Catalogue click here:

**View Auction Catalogue** 

If you wish to access the auction at McDougall Auctioneers Ltd., visit:

**Visit Auction Website** 

FREE Webinar by Blueprint: Designing Effective Surveys

## **Designing effective surveys** | February 18, 2022 9:00 – 10:30 CST | Accelerator Communications Essentials Series

Virtual and fully immersive, this 90-minute workshop will fast-track your learning while taking up minimal time during your busy February days!

#### Workshop description:

When you're proposing or planning projects that impact your residents' daily lives, you have to have the evidence to back up your decisions, every step of the way. Surveying citizens to engage them and get their buy-in can make or break your next project. Join Blueprint Inc. and Probe Research to learn how to put the pieces together.

#### About the presenters:

The Accelerator Program workshops are hosted by Michelle Kuly, CEO of Blueprint, with guest experts and specialists who together offer participants decades of experience and insight in municipal communications and public engagement.

To sign up for the workshop for FREE, simply email training@blueprintinc.ca

#### **About the Accelerator series:**

This is part of the *Accelerator Essentials Program*, a 6-workshop series on communications essentials for municipal administrators. The program is designed specifically for municipal administrators and communicators. Workshops are offered from February to April.

The series ran for the first time in 2021 in partnership with the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association with an overwhelmingly positive response. In 2022 we're excited to be making the program available to Saskatchewan municipalities. Communications topics covered by workshops in the series include:

- Surveys
- Social media
- Communications plans
- Controversial projects
- Writing for citizen understanding
- Planning virtual and in-person citizen events

Visit the links below to learn more about upcoming workshops and discounts:

**Learn More** 

**View Full Workshop Listing** 

## Heritage Conservation Branch Offering Free Virtual Webinars

Starting March 1, 2022 the Heritage Conservation Branch within the Ministry of

Parks, Culture and Sport is offering free virtual webinars to the public. Each webinar will be presented from 12:00pm to 1:00 pm CST.

#### **Upcoming Webinars:**

- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 Heritage Tourism
- Thursday, March 3, 2022 Historic Buildings as Business Assets
- Tuesday, March 8, 2022 Heritage and Community
- Thursday, March 10, 2022 Archaeological Heritage Projects

Registration is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is available for single or multiple webinars.

**To register, please visit the** *Webinar Series Registration site*. Registrations will be accepted until Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Please note that the webinars are accredited for professional development credits from the Saskatchewan Economic Development Alliance and the Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute.

If you have any questions, please contact the Heritage Conservation Branch at 306-787-2817 or *historic.places@gov.sk.ca*.

**Learn More** 

**Register Now** 

# Community Airport Partnership Program - Call for Applications

The Government of Saskatchewan is now accepting applications for the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. CAP is administered through the Ministry of Highways. Under the program, communities can apply for up to \$275,000 in grants for rehabilitation and improvements.

"Our community airports are important to our provincial economy," Highways Minister Fred Bradshaw said. "The program provides grants to municipal governments to improve community airports by helping offset costs associated with rehabilitation and upgrades."

Community airports secure the safety of our communities through supporting services like Air Ambulance and firefighting.

Projects are approved based on criteria focused on improving safety, extending life cycle of the asset, airport utilization, economic benefits associated with the project and partnership opportunities.

The Government of Saskatchewan contributed a record \$1.5 million to improvements at 17 community airports in the 2021-22 Budget. The additional funds came from government's two-year \$7.5 billion stimulus program.

Applications are now open for Community Airport Partnership grants available in 2022-23. Interested communities can apply

at www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/transportation/airports/community-airport-partnership-cap-program. The deadline for applications is 5 pm on March 13, 2022.

Since 2007-08, the ministry has committed to investing more than \$10.5 million with a total of 42 different communities and RMs having benefited from the CAP program.

For more information, contact:

Steve Shaheen Highways Saskatoon

Phone: 306-260-9159

Email: steve.shaheen@gov.sk.ca

**Apply Now** 

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15-2-2022

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#### **Future Topics**

Let us know what you would like to hear about in 2022!

Please complete our short survey to provide your input on a variety of potential webinar topics.

Visit our Webinars Library

**Take the Survey** 



## ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge

The Community Better Challenge is a month-long physical activity challenge that brings communities together with physical activity and sports participation. Now more than ever, community members are looking for an opportunity to reconnect with each other and re-engage with their community.

The annual challenge is open to all communities and individuals, ultimately recognizing *Canada's Most Active Community* and awarding the local municipality \$100,000 to support local physical activity initiatives. Secondary prizes for the Most Active Community in each province and territory will also be awarded up to \$15,000.

To support you, ParticipACTION has created a micro-grant program. Municipalities, community organizations, schools, sports clubs, and workplaces can **apply between January 17 and February 21** to receive up to \$1,500 to support activities that get your community active.

In addition to the regular grant funds available, we are thrilled to announce that Sport Canada has provided an additional \$60,000 to support multi-sport projects that exclusively engage women and girls through the Gender Equity Fund.

Learn More / Apply

## The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999 Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Swimming Pool Regulations*, 1999 and associated policies and procedures. The Ministry of Health is interested in any ideas you may have for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999
- Swimming Pool Design and Operation Standards

• Whirlpool Design and Operational Standards

#### See below message from the Ministry of Health:

Dear Stakeholder:

The reduction of red tape and regulatory burden is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Red tape impacts all residents and businesses and reduces the efficiency of government. Inconsistent, unclear, out-of-date and duplicative regulations create hardship for Saskatchewan people and business and act as barriers to economic growth.

As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Swimming Pool Regulations*, 1999.

The survey period is open between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50140327/Swimming-Pool-Regulations

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Stevens at **Shawna.Stevens@health.gov.sk.ca**.

**Take the Survey** 

### The Health Hazard Regulations Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Health Hazard Regulations* and associated policies and procedures. We are interested in any ideas you may have for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- The Health Hazard Regulations
- Saskatchewan Personal Service Facility Best Management Practices

#### See below message from the Ministry of Health:

Dear Stakeholder:

The reduction of red tape and regulatory burden is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Red tape impacts all residents and businesses and reduces the efficiency of government. Inconsistent, unclear, out-of-date and duplicative regulations create hardship for Saskatchewan people and business and act as barriers to economic growth.

As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to

participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Health Hazard Regulations*.

The survey period is open between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50140324/Health-Hazard-Regulations

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Wayne Johnson at *Wayne.Johnson@health.gov.sk.ca*.

Take the Survey

# FREE Webinar by Blueprint: Designing Effective Surveys

**Designing effective surveys** | February 18, 2022 9:00 – 10:30 CST | Accelerator Communications Essentials Series

Virtual and fully immersive, this 90-minute workshop will fast-track your learning while taking up minimal time during your busy February days!

#### Workshop description:

When you're proposing or planning projects that impact your residents' daily lives, you have to have the evidence to back up your decisions, every step of the way. Surveying citizens to engage them and get their buy-in can make or break your next project. Join Blueprint Inc. and Probe Research to learn how to put the pieces together.

#### About the presenters:

The Accelerator Program workshops are hosted by Michelle Kuly, CEO of Blueprint, with guest experts and specialists who together offer participants decades of experience and insight in municipal communications and public engagement.

To sign up for the workshop for FREE, simply email training@blueprintinc.ca

#### **About the Accelerator series:**

This is part of the *Accelerator Essentials Program*, a 6-workshop series on communications essentials for municipal administrators. The program is designed specifically for municipal administrators and communicators. Workshops are offered from February to April.

The series ran for the first time in 2021 in partnership with the Manitoba

Municipal Administrators Association with an overwhelmingly positive response. In 2022 we're excited to be making the program available to Saskatchewan municipalities. Communications topics covered by workshops in the series include:

- Surveys
- Social media
- Communications plans
- Controversial projects
- Writing for citizen understanding
- Planning virtual and in-person citizen events

Visit the links below to learn more about upcoming workshops and discounts:

**Learn More** 

**View Full Workshop Listing** 

## Heritage Conservation Branch Offering Free Virtual Webinars

Starting March 1, 2022 the Heritage Conservation Branch within the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport is offering free virtual webinars to the public. Each webinar will be presented from 12:00pm to 1:00 pm CST.

**Upcoming Webinars:** 

- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 Heritage Tourism
- Thursday, March 3, 2022 Historic Buildings as Business Assets
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- Thursday, March 10, 2022 Archaeological Heritage Projects

Registration is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is available for single or multiple webinars.

**To register, please visit the** *Webinar Series Registration site*. Registrations will be accepted until Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Please note that the webinars are accredited for professional development credits from the Saskatchewan Economic Development Alliance and the Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute.

If you have any questions, please contact the Heritage Conservation Branch at 306-787-2817 or *historic.places@gov.sk.ca*.

**Learn More** 

**Register Now** 

## Information

Attention RMs and Producers: Last Date for Sale

## and Use of Strychnine

The Pest Management Regulator Agency (PMRA) has deregistered Strychnine. Based on the date of the deregistration, the **last date of sale** of Strychnine is **March 4, 2022**. Sale of Strychnine after this date is prohibited by federal statute.

As well, the date of **last use** of Strychnine is **March 4, 2023**. Any remaining stocks of Strychnine should be used before that date; after this date, unused Strychnine will require disposal in an environmentally safe manner. For additional information on farm chemical disposal, please contact the Ag knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Further information about the PMRA decision on the use of Strychnine for Richardson's Ground Squirrels is available on the Government of Canada website:

**Learn More** 

## Saskatchewan's Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of Canada Proceed to Senate

A motion in support of the province's amendments to the Constitution of Canada received approval from the House of Commons today. The amendments, which repeal Section 24 of The Saskatchewan Act retroactively to August 29, 1966, will now move to the Senate whereby the Governor General has the ability to formally proclaim the amendment in force, at which point it would become law.

"I would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Members of the House of Commons who voted in support of this motion to amend the Constitution," Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said. "This change will ensure that all Saskatchewan taxpayers, both citizens and businesses alike, continue to be fairly treated and bear responsibility for provincial taxes which support our provincial infrastructure and economy."

On November 29, 2021, the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a motion in favour of amending the Constitution as it related to The Saskatchewan Act to provide certainty regarding Canadian Pacific Rail's taxation requirements. Saskatchewan led this historic process of amending the entrenched provisions of the province's Constitution, which have not been amended since its enactment in 1905.

As a matter of tax policy and business competitiveness, repealing Section 24 will level the playing field for all businesses while supporting Saskatchewan's autonomy and cementing its place as an equal partner in Confederation.

For more information, contact:

Carly Rathwell Executive Council Regina

Phone: 306-787-1126

Email: carly.rathwell@gov.sk.ca

## Saskatchewan Merchandise Exports Reach Record High

# New Record High For Province

\$37.1B



Saskatchewan's strong economic recovery continues with exports reaching a new record high of \$37.1 billion in 2021, an increase of 24.7 per cent compared to the value of exports in 2020.

The previous record for annual exports was \$35.3 billion in 2014.

"Saskatchewan has a stable, secure supply chain and is providing the food, fuel and fertilizer a growing world needs," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "We will continue to support and expand our export sectors which create good jobs, generate wealth and bring investment to our province."

Farm and food products made up the largest share of 2021 exports with a value of \$17.3 billion, an increase of 6.8 per cent over 2020.

Metal and non-metallic mineral products, energy products and forestry and building products were the three commodity areas that saw the highest yearover-year increases with 312 per cent, 73 per cent and 60 per cent respectively.

The Government of Saskatchewan's robust international engagement strategy focuses on trade diversification and export promotion. Saskatchewan operates eight international Trade and Investment Offices in China, India, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, UAE, UK and Vietnam.

For more information, contact:

**Robin Speer** Trade and Export Development Regina

Phone: 306-519-5006

Email: robin.speer@gov.sk.ca

### Resources

## Call for Applications for Infrastructure Canada: Rural Transit Solutions Fund

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for the Capital Projects stream of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund.

The Rural Transit Solutions Fund is the first federal fund to target the development of transit solutions in rural communities. It is making \$250 million in federal funding available over five years to support the development of locally-driven and transit solutions that will help people living in rural communities get to work, school and appointments. A minimum of 10% of the total fund amount will be allocated to projects from Indigenous groups.

Eligible applicants can seek up to \$3 million to help cover capital costs (e.g. purchase of a vehicle or digital platforms); and up to \$5 million to support zero-emission transit solutions (e.g. for the purchase of a zero-emission vehicle(s)).

Applications for the Capital Project stream will be accepted until midnight, Pacific time, **April 7, 2022** through the online Applicant Portal, which can be accessed on Infrastructure Canada's *website*, along with other useful information to assist with the application process. The applicant guide, which can also be found on the website, provides detailed information on the Rural Transit Solutions Fund, including applicant and project eligibility requirements, and guidance for completing applications.

Any inquiries related to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund may be submitted to: *rtsf-fstcr@infc.gc.ca* via email, or 1-833-699-2280 for the toll-free number. You may also write to Infrastructure Canada, should you be interested in joining their mailing list to receive RTSF program updates, including information on their upcoming webinars that will take place in early March 2022.

Learn More / Apply

Reach Out To Us View Our Programs View Our Resources



(306) 757-3577 | sarm@sarm.ca | www.sarm.ca





22-2-2022

## Reminders

### Active Transportation Fund - Call for Applications

On January 27, 2022, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, *opened the call for applications* for the Active Transportation Fund, as well as other new funding opportunities in support of public transit systems.

Infrastructure Canada will be accepting applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund between January 27, 2022 and March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST. Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

The Active Transportation Fund's goal is to generate economic, environmental and social benefits for Canadians by increasing the amount, quality and usage of active transportation infrastructure.

If you are an eligible recipient with a project that will support a modal shift away from cars and towards active transportation, we invite you to submit your application through the *Applicant Portal*. To assist potential applicants in determining eligibility and preparing an application, guidance materials are available on *Infrastructure Canada's website*, including:

- General information on the Active Transportation Fund, which includes applicant and project eligibility requirements;
- Answers to Frequently Asked Questions;
- Instructions on *how to apply*, including:
- The Applicant Guide; and
- The **Step-by-Step Guides** for submitting an application.

Infrastructure Canada will be hosting weekly Webinars for interested potential applicants, beginning on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. At these webinar sessions, attendees will be provided with details on applicant and project eligibility, the application process, and the evaluation process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. A list of available sessions and links to register are available on the *Webinars for Potential Applicants* page.

The Active Transportation Fund team welcomes you to contact them in regard to any questions you may have about the Active Transportation Fund or the application process by sending an email to *ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca*. Please be advised that they will not be able to provide information on project eligibility

until an application is received in full through our project intake process.

**Learn More** 

## Irrigation Program Application Deadline Extensions

The Ministry of Agriculture values its relationship with stakeholders and the feedback they receive from industry.

The Ministry of Agriculture would like to update you on changes to the Irrigation Program deadlines that have been implemented to address concerns from industry that the application deadline was too early, and irrigators are experiencing delays in completing projects within the current program timelines due to a variety of factors. To bridge the gap between the end of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and the Next Policy Framework, the deadline for irrigation projects has been extended.

- The deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from Jan. 15, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.
- The deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from Aug. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.

Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under either program. The ministry is engaging with the industry to develop options for the projects where construction will carry over pass March 31, 2023.

Information about the existing Irrigation Program can be found at **Saskatchewan.ca/CAP**. Applicants should be encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Dianna Emperingham, Executive Director of Crops and Irrigation or Mark Anderson, Executive Director of Programs.

#### **Contact information:**

#### Mark Anderson

Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Programs Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 329 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1
Mark.anderson@gov.sk.ca

#### **Dianna Emperingham**

Government of Saskatchewan Executive Director Crops and Irrigation Branch, Ministry of Agriculture Rm 101 – 3085 Albert Street **Learn More** 

# Community Airport Partnership Program - Call for Applications

The Government of Saskatchewan is now accepting applications for the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. CAP is administered through the Ministry of Highways. Under the program, communities can apply for up to \$275,000 in grants for rehabilitation and improvements.

"Our community airports are important to our provincial economy," Highways Minister Fred Bradshaw said. "The program provides grants to municipal governments to improve community airports by helping offset costs associated with rehabilitation and upgrades."

Community airports secure the safety of our communities through supporting services like Air Ambulance and firefighting.

Projects are approved based on criteria focused on improving safety, extending life cycle of the asset, airport utilization, economic benefits associated with the project and partnership opportunities.

The Government of Saskatchewan contributed a record \$1.5 million to improvements at 17 community airports in the 2021-22 Budget. The additional funds came from government's two-year \$7.5 billion stimulus program.

Applications are now open for Community Airport Partnership grants available in 2022-23. Interested communities can apply

at www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/transportation/airports/community-airport-partnership-cap-program. The deadline for applications is 5 pm on March 13, 2022.

Since 2007-08, the ministry has committed to investing more than \$10.5 million with a total of 42 different communities and RMs having benefited from the CAP program.

For more information, contact:

Steve Shaheen Highways Saskatoon

Phone: 306-260-9159

Email: steve.shaheen@gov.sk.ca

**Apply Now** 

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If you have any questions, please contact the Heritage Conservation Branch at 306-787-2817 or *historic.places@gov.sk.ca*.

**Learn More** 

**Register Now** 

## Agriculture Student Scholarship

The Ministry of Agriculture is offering four scholarships for Grade 12 students who are planning on pursuing post-secondary education in agriculture.

Deadline to apply is March 1, 2022

To learn more about the application process and eligibility, visit:

**Learn More** 

To download the application form, visit:

**Download Application Form** 

## Information

Government of Canada invests nearly \$6.6 million

## to bring high-speed Internet to more than 2,500 households in Saskatchewan

The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed how we live, work, learn and do business, and now more than ever, Canadians across the country need reliable high-speed Internet to access services, supports and opportunities. Through the **Universal Broadband Fund's (UBF)** Rapid Response Stream, the Government of Canada is taking immediate action to get people living in rural and remote communities connected to high-speed Internet.

[On February 17, 2022] The Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development, together with the Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of Northern Affairs, Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada and Minister responsible for the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, announced nearly \$6.6 million in funding for 10 projects that will bring high-speed Internet to more than 2,500 households in rural Saskatchewan. Funding will be allocated as follows:

- \$2.4 million for FlexNetworks for a project benefiting the communities of Neuhorst, Bradwell, Shields, Thode, Neuanlange, and rural areas near the village of Clavet
- \$1.29 million for Prairie Crocus Rural Internet for a project benefiting the communities of Waterpark Estates, Eagle Ridge Country Estates, Aberdeen, and Shields
- \$528,909 for Access Communications Co-operative Limited for a project benefitting the communities of Macklin and Shaunavon
- \$458,271 for Muscowpetung Saulteaux Nation
- \$1.9 million for Beardy's & Okemasis Cree Nation

[February 17, 2022]'s announcement builds on the Government of Canada's progress toward making sure that 98% of Canadians have access to high-speed Internet by 2026. As we work to rebuild from the pandemic, the Government of Canada will continue to make investments in infrastructure to build strong communities and a more competitive and resilient Canada for everyone.

#### Contact:

Luka Vujic
Press Secretary
Office of the Minister of Rural Economic Development
T: (343) 571-9582
Luka.Vujic@ised-isde.gc.ca

### Resources

### The Prairie Grain Portal Town Hall Sessions

The Prairies are one of the most sophisticated and productive agricultural regions in the world, yet outside of North America we are only known for our bulk-grain exports. The primary bottleneck is simple: outside of our bulk-exports, our

farmers have little to no global exposure, and real buyers will not materialize when they don't know we are even here.

So, let's talk about it! Join us for a virtual town hall meeting where we'll share our plans to facilitate direct-sales between producers and end-markets.

#### **Registration link:**

- Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>: https://www.prairiegrainportal.com/event-details/pgp-virtual-town-hall-i
- Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>: https://www.prairiegrainportal.com/event-details/pgp-virtual-town-hall-ii

Contact information: Adil Cubukgil, adil.cubukgil@outlook.com

**Learn More** 

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