



The Weekly Policy Bulletin

1-3-2022

Reminders

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:

PGP Virtual Town Hall I

March 1, 2022

[Register Now](#)

PGP Virtual Town Hall II

DATE CHANGED from Thursday, March 3 to Thursday, March 10, 2022

[Register Now](#)

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

[Learn More](#)

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 2nd, 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@infcc.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](#)

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

Information

Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Remain Committed to Supporting Producers Through 2022 Crop Insurance Program

[On February 22, 2022], Federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit announced details of the 2022 Crop Insurance Program.

Some adjustments included in the program this year:

- In response to experiencing extreme heat temperatures and dry growing conditions, a heat adjustment factor was added to rainfall data used in claim calculations for the Forage and Corn Rainfall Insurance programs. When temperatures reach 31 degrees Celsius or higher, precipitation amounts are now reduced in the 'monthly per cent of normal' calculation. This adjustment helps recognize the impact of extreme heat on forage and corn yields.
- With the Contract Price Option, producers can use their contract prices to blend with the Crop Insurance base price for higher coverage. This allows producers to establish an insured price reflective of the actual market value they would receive for their production. New for 2022, this price option is available on all commercial crops. New crops added include

fababeans, Khorasan wheat, fall and spring rye, sunflowers, triticale, winter wheat, extra strong wheat, hard white wheat, all classes of chickpeas, caraway, irrigated dry beans and soybeans. Producers can select the crops they want covered under the Contract Price Option by March 31, 2022 and submit their contracts to SCIC by May 31, 2022.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) continues to provide relevant pricing and coverage levels. Average coverage will reach a record level of \$405 per acre, due to higher commodity prices and increased yield coverage. Due to this year's 48 per cent increase in coverage, the average total premium is higher, at \$12.05 per acre, compared to \$8.59 in 2021. The average premium rate is lower, due to the strong production in 2020. As there is a one-year lag when calculating premium rates, 2021 production is not used until 2023.

Crop Insurance is a federal-provincial-territorial Business Risk Management program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. Under Crop Insurance, premiums for most programs are shared 40 per cent by participating producers, 36 per cent by the Government of Canada and 24 per cent by the Government of Saskatchewan. Administrative expenses are fully funded by governments, 60 per cent by Canada and 40 per cent by Saskatchewan.

March 31, 2022, is the deadline to apply, reinstate or cancel their Crop Insurance contract. Producers must select insured crops and coverage levels or make additional changes by this date. Producers can speak to their local SCIC office to make any changes or coverage will remain the same as the previous year. SCIC provides a diverse and relevant suite of risk management programs: AgriStability, Crop Insurance and Livestock Price Insurance. Producers can reduce their risk by reviewing all SCIC options to find the right insurance and coverage package for their operation. For more information, contact a local SCIC office, call 1-888-935-0000 or visit [scic.ca](https://www.scic.ca).

For more information, contact:

Tessa Krofchek
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC)
Melville
Phone: 639-398-2268
Email: media.inquiries@scic.ca

To read the full news release and view the 2022 Crop Insurance Program letter from SCIC, please use the links below:

[Full News Release](#)

[2022 Crop Insurance Program Letter](#)

Canadian Agricultural Youth Council - Seeking New Members

The **Canadian Agricultural Youth Council**, hosted by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), is recruiting creative and outspoken people who have a passion for food and farming and enjoy working in a team to find solutions and have

impact.

The Youth Council meets regularly with Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food as well as department officials to discuss the issues that matter the most to young people in food and farming. Together, Youth Council members look for ways to overcome challenges facing youth and build a vibrant future for food and farming in Canada that reflects the values and aspirations of young people from all walks of life.

First established in 2020, the **Canadian Agricultural Youth Council** provides an opportunity for the next generation of leaders to share their personal experiences, perspectives, and innovative ideas on how to tackle issues from across the agriculture and agri-food sector.

During this unique career building opportunity, Youth Council members will learn about how policy and programming is developed at AAFC and expand their professional skillset and network.

Who can apply?

We welcome youth, ages 18 to 30, from across Canada to **apply** to the Canadian Agricultural Youth Council by March 22 if they have experience and knowledge of food and/or farming as a result of their upbringing, academic studies, volunteer work, current employment, or other life experiences.

The next cohort of Youth Council members will be made up of 25 diverse youth from across Canada including farmers, students, researchers, teachers, food processors, business owners, scientists, and advocates. Agriculture doesn't just mean on-farm activities — it also includes food processing, distribution, marketing, retail, restaurants and all the other activities along the value chain.

If you want to learn more about government, expand your professional network, and work together to create positive change in the food and farming sector, please **apply** by **March 22, 2022**.

[Learn More / Apply](#)

Canadian Security Intelligence Service Newsletter

In mid-2020, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) Academic Outreach & Stakeholder Engagement (AOSE) team launched a bi-weekly newsletter entitled "Need to Know," an open-source, multi-platform media collation on issues considered relevant to Canada's broad national security interests.

The objective of the newsletter is to highlight and share a diverse array of perspectives on Canadian and global security matters, with a focus on emerging developments and sources of expertise across disciplines. With the usual caveat that inclusion of a document, source, expert or event does not constitute endorsement by, or affiliation with, CSIS, topics AOSE covered in recent issues include climate change and security, disinformation, diversity and equity in the intelligence community, research security interests.

To view the AOSE's February 24, 2022 "NEED TO KNOW" newsletter, please click the link below:

[Read Newsletter](#)

Resources

Training Opportunities for Local Board of Revision and Other Administrative Tribunals

For the 2023 taxation year, all board of revision members and secretaries in Saskatchewan are required to take mandatory training offered through the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS). This is the first step of certifying a board of revision.

Once all board members and the secretary have completed the training program, the board must apply for certification to the Registrar. Boards of revision, rather than individuals, will be certified by the Registrar. Only certified boards will be allowed to hear property assessment appeals in the 2023 taxation year and thereafter.

To assist municipalities with having a qualified board of revision, an online training program has been developed through a partnership involving the Ministry of Government Relations, the Board of Revision Renewal Stakeholder Steering Committee and Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy (JSGS).

All board members and secretaries are encouraged to take the training to achieve better quality hearings and decisions for taxpayers. **Registration for the online training has opened and at a price of only \$100 per student.** Over 75 individuals registered for this training in January 2022.

Although focused on the board of revision work and property assessment appeals, any person involved in the work of other appeal bodies can benefit from the administrative justice training offered in this course. To learn more about the training program and register, visit the [***JSGS Board of Revision Training Program***](#) page.

Municipalities are responsible for property assessment appeals at the first level. The legislation requires every municipal council to appoint a board of revision. They may decide to appoint their own board of revision, establish or join a district board with other municipalities, or contract a private board. In each instance, this training program will provide new or existing board members and secretaries with the essential knowledge needed to conduct hearings and ensure property owners receive high-quality services throughout the province.

[Learn More / Register](#)

Employment Standards 2022-23 Training Webinar Schedule

The Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety's Employment Standards Branch is offering webinars in spring/summer 2022. The webinar series is free and covers various employment standards topics such as: Employment Standards overview, protections for foreign workers, tips for taking the Young Worker Readiness Certificate course, employment leaves, what you need to know about employing youth, understanding when overtime is payable, understanding layoffs and ending employment, COVID-19 and Saskatchewan Employment Act, as well as many others.

If your organization or group is interested, the Employment Standards Branch also provides customized webinars for groups no smaller than 20 attendees.

Visit <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/employment-standards/employment-standards-training> to view the upcoming webinars, register and/or view recordings of previous webinars.

Questions or Inquiries can be directed to the Employer Services at 1-833-354-6914 or saskjobs@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More](#)

[Reach Out To Us](#)

[View Our Programs](#)

[View Our Resources](#)



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





Reminders

Canadian Agricultural Youth Council - Seeking New Members

The **Canadian Agricultural Youth Council**, hosted by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), is recruiting creative and outspoken people who have a passion for food and farming and enjoy working in a team to find solutions and have impact.

The Youth Council meets regularly with Canada's Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food as well as department officials to discuss the issues that matter the most to young people in food and farming. Together, Youth Council members look for ways to overcome challenges facing youth and build a vibrant future for food and farming in Canada that reflects the values and aspirations of young people from all walks of life.

First established in 2020, the **Canadian Agricultural Youth Council** provides an opportunity for the next generation of leaders to share their personal experiences, perspectives, and innovative ideas on how to tackle issues from across the agriculture and agri-food sector.

During this unique career building opportunity, Youth Council members will learn about how policy and programming is developed at AAFC and expand their professional skillset and network.

Who can apply?

We welcome youth, ages 18 to 30, from across Canada to **apply** to the Canadian Agricultural Youth Council by March 22 if they have experience and knowledge of food and/or farming as a result of their upbringing, academic studies, volunteer work, current employment, or other life experiences.

The next cohort of Youth Council members will be made up of 25 diverse youth from across Canada including farmers, students, researchers, teachers, food processors, business owners, scientists, and advocates. Agriculture doesn't just mean on-farm activities — it also includes food processing, distribution, marketing, retail, restaurants and all the other activities along the value chain.

If you want to learn more about government, expand your professional network, and work together to create positive change in the food and farming sector,

please **apply** by **March 22, 2022**.

[Learn More / Apply](#)

Employment Standards 2022-23 Training Webinar Schedule

Looking for some opportunities to learn more...

The Employment Standards Branch's series of free webinars cover various employment standards topics such as: Employment Standards overview, protections for foreign workers, tips for taking the Young Worker Readiness Certificate course, employment leaves, what you need to know about employing youth, understanding when overtime is payable, understanding layoffs and ending employment, COVID-19 and the Saskatchewan Employment Act and many others.

Please visit their Training Page at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/employment-standards/employment-standards-training> on [Saskatchewan.ca](https://www.saskatchewan.ca) to review the webinar schedule, register, and/or view recordings of previous webinars.

The Employment Standards Branch also provides customized webinars for interested employers and groups. A minimum of 20 attendees is required.

If you or your members have any questions, please give the Employer Services team a call at 1-833-354-6914, or email saskjobs@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More](#)

Feedback

Stakeholder Input Needed on the Modernizing Private Sign Regulation Along Provincial Highways

The Government of Saskatchewan is responsible for the regulation of signs within 400 metres of provincial highways outside of urban municipalities. One of the most important reasons is safety. This ensures signs are not overly distracting to drivers and are not placed within key sight triangles at intersections. Government recognizes that signs along provincial highways can be a way to share local information with highway travelers. There are benefits to having the signage present but there are also some challenges.

The ministry has drafted a discussion paper, highlighting some of the background and give greater detail on some of the issues.

Their goal is to determine if the regulatory regime and policies in place achieve

the right balance, or can the regulations and policies be amended to make them simpler and more effective?

The Ministry of Highways is asking you to respond to their questions through written submission about the legislation and policies so they can consider amendments.

Responses will be accepted until March 28, 2022.

For additional information or questions please contact:

Jeffrey Holland
Director, Traffic Engineering Standards Ministry of Highways
Government of Saskatchewan
Email: jeffrey.holland@gov.sk.ca
Phone: (306) 787-8353

[Read Discussion Paper](#)

Information

2021 Saskatchewan Municipal Award Winners

Five innovative projects by 11 municipalities are being recognized in the 15th Annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards. The Saskatchewan Municipal Awards celebrate the excellent and innovative practices of Saskatchewan's municipal governments. This year's winners have revitalized their communities through transformation and restoration.

The winners of the 15th Annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards are:

First Place:

Riverhurst Wetland (Village of Riverhurst)

Winning practice: Restoring a local wetland that will provide both environmental and economic benefits to the community.

Second Place:

Churchbridge Community Campground (Town of Churchbridge)

Winning practice: Developed the community campground into an asset that not only provides economic benefits through tourism but offers increased recreational opportunities for residents.

Second Place:

Multiuse Facility (Town of Birch Hills)

Winning practice: Transformed a vacant building into a multi-use facility to house the library, provide space for events, and bring together diverse user groups.

Third Place:

Jean Louis Legare Regional Park Expansion Project (RM of Willow Bunch No. 42 and Town of Willow Bunch)

Winning practice: Undertaking a water and sewer project to support the

expansion of the local regional park and enhance tourism and economic opportunities for Willow Bunch and the surrounding region.

Regional Cooperation:

South Saskatchewan Ready (RMs of Poplar Valley No. 12, Hart Butte No. 11, Willow Bunch No. 42, Bengough No. 40, and Happy Valley No. 10, and the Towns of Rockglen, Willow Bunch, Bengough, and Coronach)

Winning practice: Created an action team to find ways and funding to diversify the local economy and mitigate the impacts of the transition away from coal fired power dependence.

For more information, visit www.municipalawards.ca or contact:

Sarah MacMillan
Communications Advisor, SUMA
306-525-4396
communications@suma.org

To read the full winners announcement, please click the link below:

[View Full Announcement](#)

Anglers: It's Time to Remove Ice Fishing Shelters

With ice fishing season winding down, anglers should plan to remove their ice fishing shelters before the deadlines - **March 15 south of Highway 16** and **March 31 north of the highway**.

Spring weather is unpredictable and it can be easy to overestimate how much time you have to safely remove your ice shelter. Every year, shelters end up abandoned on the melting ice, posing a danger to boaters, water skiers and others enjoying our lakes. Leftover debris can also wash up on shore, causing litter and potential environmental hazards.

Ice fishing structures must be removed from the ice surface and transported away, along with all litter and leftover debris. Shelters not removed may result in the owner's prosecution, with the structure and its contents confiscated. All shelters require the owner's complete name, address and phone number marked clearly on the outside, in letters that are at least 2.5 cm high.

Anyone travelling on the ice should be extremely cautious. Slush indicates that ice is quickly eroding, and fluctuating temperatures can cause thermal cracks and pressure ridges, which are also indicators of unsafe ice conditions. Ice thickness and strength can vary considerably from one area to another, so check and be sure.

For more information about fishing in Saskatchewan, check the Anglers Guide, available online at saskatchewan.ca/fishing.

[Learn More](#)

Record Breaking Investments for Rural Infrastructure

This year, SaskPower is putting more focus than ever into improving power reliability for rural customers. In 2021-22, they're striving to make their biggest investment ever – \$272 million.

With an investment like this, you're likely to see more crews working throughout rural Saskatchewan to upgrade power lines and poles throughout the entire year. SaskPower would greatly appreciate your support in spreading the word to members of your community. For your convenience, they've included a poster for you to print and display in your office. They've also included an ad you're welcome to use in newsletters that go out to your communities.

A key piece of information SaskPower would like to share is that if their crews create any damage while they work, SaskPower will restore it to be as close to its original condition as possible. If damage remains or if crops are damaged, they'll be reasonably compensated for that, too. Landowners will also benefit in many cases from power lines being moved from fields to road allowances.

You may also get questions about construction timing. In previous years, SaskPower has scheduled work to avoid impacting farm operations. Due to higher levels of construction activity, this is more difficult because SaskPower needs to complete work throughout the entire year to make as much progress as possible.

If you have any questions about SaskPower's record capital investments, please contact, Scott Mcleod, Director of SaskPower's Corporate Project Management Office, at 306-566-6129 or scmcleod@saskpower.com. More information is available at saskpower.com/rural-upgrades.

SaskPower looks forward to bringing the long-term benefit of improved power reliability to your community!

SaskPower thanks you in advance for your support and your patience.

[Learn More](#)

[Construction Poster](#)

[Ad for Newsletters](#)

Government Seeks Guidance on Path Towards Reducing Emissions Associated with Fertilizer

Canadian farmers have shown that they are good stewards of the land and have long cared for the environment. They are key players in building a healthy environment and a more sustainable agriculture sector in Canada.

[On March 4, 2022], Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau launched a new round of consultations, beginning with the release of a Discussion Document. These consultations will focus on how we can achieve Canada's national target to reduce absolute greenhouse gas (GHG)

emissions associated with fertilizers by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030. The Document is a key part of consultations with industry to help reach this goal.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) met with producer groups and provincial and territorial partners in 2021 to discuss the emissions reduction target and initiate conversations on how to work together to develop a realistic approach. Stakeholders identified important opportunities and challenges for industry which helped inform a *Discussion Document* that will stimulate discussion and lead to a shared understanding of how Canada can reach its 30% fertilizer emissions reduction target. The Discussion Document is now available for comment until June 3, 2022.

Fertilizers play a major role in the agriculture sector's success and have contributed to record harvests in the last decade. They have helped drive increases in Canadian crop yields, grain sales, and exports. However, nitrous oxide emissions, particularly those associated with synthetic nitrogen fertilizer use have also grown significantly. That is why the Government of Canada has set the national fertilizer emissions reduction target, which is part of the commitment to reduce total GHG emissions in Canada by 40-45% by 2030, as outlined in *Canada's Strengthened Climate Plan*, and enshrined in legislation through the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act. The Government is focused on meeting this emissions reduction target through a range of policy measures and approaches, such as working with farmers to encourage broader adoption of new products and implementation of beneficial management practices, resulting in both economic benefits for farmers and environmental benefits for society. An important aspect of Canada's path toward reaching the target while not compromising crop yields will require ongoing support from industry stakeholders.

Industry-led initiatives like Fertilizer Canada's 4R Nutrient Stewardship program will also play an important role in promoting sustainable use of fertilizer in crop production and can reduce GHG emissions. The Government of Canada has already made major investments in new programs to help farmers adopt new beneficial management practices and clean technology which can improve productivity and lower GHG emissions, including through the *Agriculture Climate Solutions – Living Labs* initiative, the *On-Farm Climate Action Fund*, and the investments delivered through these programs are designed to leverage existing practices and technologies in order to meet Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. In the coming months, AAFC will be hosting virtual discussions for participants in Canada to continue the conversation on the emission reduction target. AAFC will consult with Canadians, including producers, processors, Indigenous communities, women in agriculture, youth, environmental organizations, small and emerging sectors and other stakeholders and partners to develop a path forward. Working together is vital to identifying solutions to address the serious environmental challenges at hand. Reducing emissions associated with fertilizer can help contribute to meeting and exceeding Canada's 2030 GHG emissions reduction target and achieving net-zero by 2050.

For more information, please contact:

Marianne Dandurand
Press Secretary

Office of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

marianne.dandurand@agr.gc.ca

343-541-9229

Media Relations

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

1-866-345-7972

aafc.mediarelations-relationsmedias.aac@agr.gc.ca

[View Full News Release](#)

Resources

The Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) Now Accepting Applications

The Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) delivered by Agriculture and Agri-food Canada is **now accepting applications** for the 2022-2023 program year. Applications will be accepted between February 28, 2022 and March 21, 2022.

The Youth Employment and Skills Program will contribute approximately \$3.7 million in **wage subsidies to employers** who hire youth (between the age of 15 and 30 inclusive) for agricultural jobs. Projects may start as early as April 1, 2022 and end no later than March 31, 2023.

New this year, the program **will focus on youth facing employment barriers**. The list of barriers is as follows:

- Indigenous
- living with a physical disability
- living with a diagnosed mental health disability
- visible minorities
- recent immigrant
- residing in a remote location
- living in a low income household
- single parent
- early school leaver

An application form is attached to this e-mail. The form has a submit button imbedded within it and once you have completed the form, click on submit button. Your application will automatically be sent to us and you will receive a confirmation email. Applicants will be limited to 2 applications unless additional funding is received by the program. Application intake will close midnight on March 21, 2022.

For additional information regarding the program and the application form, please visit the links below:

[Learn More](#)

[Application Form](#)

[Reach Out To Us](#)

[View Our Programs](#)

[View Our Resources](#)



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





Information

Government Partners with PATHS to Move Training Program Online

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 10, 2022 outlining a recent partnership with PATHS regarding online training programs, the article is set out below:

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Status of Women Office are partnering with the Provincial Association of Transition Houses and Services of Saskatchewan (PATHS) to develop an online course to educate employers and staff on how to support colleagues experiencing interpersonal violence outside of the workplace.

"Investing in the development of online modules to educate the workforce on the complexities of interpersonal violence and abuse is a key step in prevention," Justice Minister and Attorney General Gordon Wyant said. "Educating employees and building awareness helps to ensure the health and safety of everyone in the workplace."

Together, the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Status of Women Office have invested \$59,000 to move the training online.

"Enhancing initiatives that address interpersonal violence and abuse is important work," Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Office Laura Ross said. "PATHS is leading the way on this initiative and I am pleased that the Status of Women Office has been able to support their efforts."

The Effective Workplace Response to Interpersonal Violence training module will focus on how people experiencing interpersonal violence can be impacted and how employers and co-workers can offer support. The course outlines how to recognize the signs of abusive relationships, how to respond to colleagues experiencing interpersonal violence and abuse, and how to refer victims to community support networks, all in an effort to improve workplace health and safety.

"The workplace can be a place of safety and support for individuals experiencing intimate partner violence if employers and co-workers know how to have effective conversations, and supportive policies are in place," PATHS Executive Director Jo-Anne Dusel said. "This course will provide information and concrete

tools for workplaces to reduce the harmful impacts of abuse on survivors and contribute to workplace safety."

The online workshop includes information on legislated workplace leave for victims of interpersonal violence and abuse, as well as suggested policies and procedures for workplaces to adopt. The course is anticipated to launch online in the fall 2022.

For more information, contact:

Ariane Whiting
Justice and Attorney General
Regina
Phone: 306-787-8621
Email: ariane.whiting@gov.sk.ca

Jamie Toth
Parks, Culture and Sport
Regina
Phone: 306-533-4139
Email: jamie.toth2@gov.sk.ca

[View Full Article](#)

2022 Crop Insurance Enrolment Deadline Extended to April 14, 2022

On March 14, 2022, the Federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit released a news article outlining an extension of the deadline for enrolment in the Crop Insurance program, the article is set out below:

[On March 14, 2022], Federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit announced the 2022 Crop Insurance enrolment deadline is extended to April 14, 2022. Due to logistical challenges because of the ongoing supply-chain issues posed by the pandemic, there was a delay in the delivery of the 2022 Crop Insurance packages to producers' addresses. These challenges occurred after the packages left the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) on February 25, 2022.

"Prairie producers continue to inspire us with their resiliency and ability to rise to the challenges of the past year," said Marie-Claude Bibeau, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. "Risk management programs like crop insurance are essential to help producers prepare for the future, and we want to ensure they have the time they need to make decisions that are right for their business."

"We want to ensure producers have additional time to review their operation's risk management plans for the upcoming growing season," said Marit. "SCIC offers a full suite of programs to support producers, including Crop Insurance. We understand the challenges the Saskatchewan agriculture industry is currently facing, and I encourage producers to take the time now to review all Crop

Insurance options and select features best suited for their operation."

As of March 10, 2022, the 2022 Crop Insurance packages were circulated and distributed to producers' addresses. Producers can anticipate receiving their packages in their mailboxes within the next few days.

SCIC staff are available to assist producers with their Crop Insurance endorsement and coverage details. Producers can also access and modify their Crop Insurance details directly through SCIC's online Crop Insurance portal, CropConnect. Producers must select insured crops and coverage levels or make additional changes by April 14, 2022, or coverage will remain the same as the previous year.

For more information, contact a local SCIC office, email customer.service@scic.ca, or call 1-888-935-0000.

Crop Insurance is a federal-provincial-territorial Business Risk Management program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. Under Crop Insurance, premiums for most programs are shared 40 per cent by participating producers, 36 per cent by the Government of Canada and 24 per cent by the Government of Saskatchewan. Administrative expenses are fully funded by governments, 60 per cent by Canada and 40 per cent by Saskatchewan.

For more information, contact:

Tessa Krofchek
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC)
Melville
Phone: 639-398-2268
Email: media.inquiries@scic.ca
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Media Relations
Ottawa
Phone: 613-773-7972

[View Full Article](#)

Province to Invest \$262 Million to Benefit Municipalities

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 16, 2022 outlining its plan to invest \$262 Million to the benefit of the Municipalities, the article is set out below:

[On March 16, 2022], Premier Scott Moe announced more than \$262 million of provincial funding will be invested for the overall Municipal Revenue Sharing (MRS) Program in 2022-23 to benefit Saskatchewan municipalities and support their priorities.

"This annual and predictable provincial revenue allows local decision makers the flexibility to address the needs that matter most to their municipalities," Moe said. "This unconditional provincial funding helps lay the foundation for stronger

communities and a stronger Saskatchewan."

Total funding for 2022-23 for MRS represents a more than 106 per cent increase from the 2007-08 provincial fiscal year. The average annual overall provincial funding for this municipal program for the previous five years from 2017-18 to 2021-22 is more than \$260 million.

The annual provincial funding is based on three quarters of one point of the provincial sales tax revenue collected from two years prior.

As in previous years, the Targeted Sector Support Initiative will receive a \$1.5 million investment from the total MRS Program. Co-managed by the provincial government and municipal partners, the initiative invests in municipal projects advancing priority areas, such as good governance, regional planning, and inter-community collaboration.

Following this announcement, more than \$3.7 billion in provincial funding will have been allocated to support municipalities across Saskatchewan through the MRS program from 2007-08 to 2022-23. When the provincial budget is released, more details will be available.

For more information, contact:

Jonathan Tremblay
Government Relations
Regina
Phone: 306-787-6156
Email: jonathan.tremblay@gov.sk.ca

[View Full Article](#)

Saskatchewan Introduces Enhanced Measures to Control Feral Pigs

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 16, 2022 outlining its steps to enhance measures to control feral pigs, the article is set out below:

The Government of Saskatchewan is taking steps today to proactively enhance and broaden the regulation, monitoring and control of wild boar and feral pigs in the province.

The Ministry of Agriculture is developing regulations for licensing existing commercial wild boar farms and imposing a moratorium on any new farms. Regulations for wild boar/feral pigs will also be developed under *The Pest Control Act*, which would specify the various monitoring and control efforts as well as public obligations to report.

Additionally, annual funding for the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) Feral Wild Boar Control Program for surveillance and eradication efforts in the province is being doubled to \$200,000.

"Increasing feral pig surveillance and eradication efforts, along with declaring them a regulated pest, are proactive measures to help ensure the health of both the agriculture industry and the natural environment in Saskatchewan," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "These are substantial steps that improve risk management and protect the resilience and security of our agriculture industry, which is a critical component of our provincial economy."

Feral pigs are invasive and established within localized regions of the province, including agricultural production areas, and represent a significant problem due to damage caused to hay and crop land and to natural areas, as well as their potential to spread invasive plant species. They also harass livestock and wildlife, and are potential reservoirs for livestock diseases such as African swine fever, a federally reportable disease that is not yet present in North America but is a serious threat to the Canadian pork industry.

The SCIC and the Ministry of Agriculture work closely with the public, producer associations like Sask Pork, and rural municipalities to monitor and deal with feral pigs in the province. This issue is among various areas of mutual interest and cooperation between the province and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) which recently requested a collaborative, long-term solution to the wild boar/feral pigs issue in Saskatchewan.

All wild boar/feral pig sightings should be reported immediately by contacting a local SCIC office or calling 1-888-935-0000 (toll-free).

For more information, contact:

Jamie Shanks
Agriculture
Regina
Phone: 306-787-4031
Email: jamie.shanks2@gov.sk.ca

[View Full Article](#)

Changes to Fees and Charges in 2022-23

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 18, 2022 outlining changes to fees and charges in 2022-23, the article is set out below:

Certain fees and charges paid in Saskatchewan will change in 2022-23 to better reflect the cost of related provincial services.

The changes are forecast to generate about \$2.7 million in additional revenue in 2022-23.

The attached summary lists the changes and provides contact information for each ministry or agency.

For more information, contact:

Jeff Welke
Finance
Regina
Phone: 306-787-6046
Email: jeff.welke@gov.sk.ca
Cell: 306-536-1185

To review the changes to the fees and charges and to view the full article, please click the links below:

[Review Changes to Fees & Charges](#)

[View Full Article](#)

Public Awareness Campaign Encourages Firearms Safety in Saskatchewan

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 21, 2022 outlining its public awareness campaign which is encouraging firearms safety throughout Saskatchewan, the article is set out below:

The Saskatchewan Firearms Office has launched a public awareness campaign to promote firearms safety in the province.

"Education is key when it comes to licensing and the safe operation of firearms in the province," Corrections, Policing and Public Safety Minister Christine Tell said. "We look forward to working with Saskatchewan firearms owners to promote firearms safety in communities across Saskatchewan."

The campaign promotes safe practices when using and storing firearms to help prevent accidents and mitigate loss or theft. The ads will appear on social media platforms, radio, TV and in community newspapers to encourage firearm safety. The campaign also focuses on the next generation of firearms owners and encourages passing down knowledge about safe handling practices to children and grandchildren.

"Firearms safety starts with you," Chief Firearms Officer Robert Freberg said. "I encourage firearms owners across the province to lead by example and teach the next generation how to be safe when using and storing firearms and ammunition."

Safety tips when handling a firearm include:

- Learn the basic characteristics of the firearm you are using including how to load, handle and store the firearm safely;
- Never point a firearm at anyone or anything you don't want to shoot;
- Ensure firearms are unloaded at all times when stored;
- Lock the firearms in a cabinet or safe or attach a secure locking device, such as a trigger lock or cable lock to ensure the firearm cannot be fired;
- Store ammunition separately or lock it up and always use the correct ammunition for your firearm; and
- Make sure unauthorized individuals do not have access to the keys or

combination lock used to secure your firearm unless they are permitted and licensed.

Many responsible firearms owners in Saskatchewan enjoy hunting or travelling to other destinations that require them to relocate with their firearms. It is important to make suitable arrangements with your accommodations provider to secure your firearms upon arrival. When stopping at restaurants or gas stations along the way, park in a location where your vehicle can easily be observed by you or others. The responsibility belongs to licensed owners to unload, secure and place firearms out of sight.

In 2021, Saskatchewan transitioned oversight of the province's firearms program from the federal government to the province with the appointment of its first provincially appointed Chief Firearms Officer. The office now administers the *Firearms Act* in Saskatchewan, which includes jurisdiction over the licensing, storage, transportation and carrying of firearms.

For more information, contact:

Ariane Whiting
Corrections, Policing and Public Safety
Regina
Phone: 306-787-8621
Email: ariane.whiting@gov.sk.ca

[View Full Article](#)

Resources

Crop Planning Guide & Crop Protection Guide 2022

The Ministry of Agriculture recently released both the Crop Planning Guide and Crop Protection Guide for 2022.

Crop Planning Guide 2022:

<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/115925/formats/131838/download>

Crop Protection Guide 2022:

<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/77706/formats/87089/download>

For more information, contact:

Agriculture Knowledge Centre
Toll Free Number: 1-866-457-2377
Agriculture Knowledge Centre
Phone 866-457-2377

Environmentally Impacted Sites – Sask GeoHub

The Ministry of Environment plans to publish a Geographic Information System (GIS) data set, illustrating environmentally impacted sites in the province in a map format. This GIS data set will be launched on the government website, also known as the GeoHub (<https://geohub.saskatchewan.ca/>), by the end of March 2022.

The online map will show basic information for the impacted sites, including:

- Case identification number;
- Location;
- Contaminant(s) of concern; and
- Status of the site (categories include notification, assessment, corrective actions, closure or Notice of Site Condition).

To review Questions and Answers surrounding the Sask GeoHub and Environmentally Impacted Site, please click the link below:

[View Q&A Document](#)

[Visit GeoHub](#)

Active Transportation Fund Update

The deadline for applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund is fast approaching - applications will be accepted through the **Applicant Portal** until **March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST**. Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

In case you were unable to attend a information webinar, we have included a copy of the webinar deck. To view the ATF Webinar Deck, click the link below:

[View ATF Webinar Presentation](#)

All information shared during the webinars is also available in the **Applicant Guide**, on the **website** or in the **Step-by-Step Guides**.

The Active Transportation Fund team has developed a list of Frequently Ask Questions. To view the FAQs for Applicants, click the link below.

[View Applicant FAQs](#)

For more information or for any inquiries, contact:

The Active Transportation Fund Team
ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca

[Learn More / Apply](#)

Reach Out To
Us

View Our
Programs

View Our
Resources



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





The Weekly Policy Bulletin

29-3-2022

[View as Webpage](#)

Reminders

Active Transportation Fund Update

The deadline for applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund is fast approaching - applications will be accepted through the **Applicant Portal** until **March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST**. Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

In case you were unable to attend a information webinar, we have included a copy of the webinar deck. To view the ATF Webinar Deck, click the link below:

[View ATF Webinar Presentation](#)

All information shared during the webinars is also available in the **Applicant Guide**, on the **website** or in the **Step-by-Step Guides**.

The Active Transportation Fund team has developed a list of Frequently Ask Questions. To view the FAQs for Applicants, click the link below.

[View Applicant FAQs](#)

For more information or for any inquiries, contact:

The Active Transportation Fund Team
ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca

[Learn More / Apply](#)

Employment Standards 2022-23 Training Webinar Schedule

Looking for some opportunities to learn more...

The Employment Standards Branch's series of free webinars cover various employment standards topics such as: Employment Standards overview, protections for foreign workers, tips for taking the Young Worker Readiness

Certificate course, employment leaves, what you need to know about employing youth, understanding when overtime is payable, understanding layoffs and ending employment, COVID-19 and the Saskatchewan Employment Act and many others.

Please visit their [Training Page](#) to review the webinar schedule, register, and/or view recordings of previous webinars.

The Employment Standards Branch also provides customized webinars for interested employers and groups. A minimum of 20 attendees is required.

If you or your members have any questions, please give the Employer Services team a call at 1-833-354-6914, or email saskjobs@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More](#)

Information



\$880,000 in funding for the Digital Literacy for Job Seekers Program

saskatchewan.ca 

Saskatchewan Announces Funding of \$880,000 for Digital Literacy for Job Seekers

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 22, 2022 outlining an investment in the digital literacy for the Job Seekers Initiative, the article is set out below:

[On March 22, 2022], the Government of Saskatchewan announced an investment of \$880,000 for the Digital Literacy for Job Seekers Initiative. The funding supports individuals to develop the foundational digital skills they need to secure employment.

"As digital technology continues to transform every aspect of our lives and economy, having basic digital literacy skills is becoming increasingly important,"

Immigration and Career Training Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "The Digital Literacy for Job Seekers Initiative helps individuals with limited experience acquire the digital skills they need to enter and compete in our labour market."

The Saskatchewan Growth Plan for 2020 to 2030 identifies technology as a catalyst for growth. This initiative supports more Saskatchewan people to acquire the basic digital skills and knowledge they need to secure financial self-sufficiency and participate in our provincial economy.

Job seekers will complete an assessment to determine their individualized learning needs and will be trained on:

- Basic digital literacy skills and use of digital devices;
- Developing skills to support job search efforts such as:
 - Resume and cover letter writing;
 - Developing a portfolio; and
 - On-line job search.

The digital literacy program is funded through the Canada-Saskatchewan Labour Market Transfer Agreements. To be eligible, individuals must be legally entitled to work in Saskatchewan, at least 16 years of age, unemployed or underemployed and seeking employment.

For more information on the program and eligibility, contact SaskJobs Career Services directly at 1-833-613-0485 or careerservices@gov.sk.ca.

For more information, contact:

Robin Speer
Immigration and Career Training
Regina
Phone: 306-519-5006
Email: robin.speer@gov.sk.ca

[View Full News Release](#)

Protect Your Elm Trees: Do Not Prune from April 1 to August 31

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 25, 2022 outlining the annual ban on pruning elm trees in Saskatchewan, the article is set out below:

The annual ban on pruning elm trees in Saskatchewan begins April 1 and runs until August 31. It is illegal to prune elm trees during this time to help stop the spread of Dutch elm disease (DED).

As the weather warms, the tiny elm bark beetles that spread DED become more active. Fresh cuts on trees can attract the insects, making an infection more likely.

The beetles breed in dead and dying elm wood, so pruning your trees before or

after the ban period helps reduce beetle populations. This will also help keep your trees healthy and better able to resist disease. You can remove an elm tree during the ban period, but it's important to dispose of all elm wood promptly and properly. To confirm the designated disposal site in your area, contact your local municipality.

Incorrect pruning can damage your trees and spread diseases. Check the qualifications of anyone you hire to prune your trees. In Saskatchewan, those who prune elm trees commercially must complete a recognized training program or be under the supervision of someone who is properly trained.

To prevent the spread of DED, as well as other insects and diseases, it is illegal to use, transport, store or sell elm firewood. Regulations also restrict the use, transport, storage and sale of elm logs.

For more information, contact your local municipality or the Ministry of Environment Inquiry Centre at 1-800-567-4224, or visit saskatchewan.ca/forestry.

For more information, contact:

Val Nicholson
Environment
Prince Albert
Phone: 306-953-2459
Email: Val.Nicholson@gov.sk.ca
Cell: 306-981-5645

[View Full News Release](#)

Saskatchewan Announces \$300,000 in Funding for Saskatchewan First Nations Natural Resource Centre of Excellence

The Government of Saskatchewan released a news article on March 28, 2022 outlining an investment in Saskatchewan First Nations Natural Resources Centre of Excellence, the article is set out below:

[On March 28, 2022], the Government of Saskatchewan announced \$300,000 in funding for the Saskatchewan First Nations Natural Resource Centre of Excellence (COE) to support two projects to help advance the Growth Plan goal of growing Indigenous participation in the province's natural resource sector.

"The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes the important role Indigenous organizations will play as we continue to work toward growing Indigenous participation in the resource sector and this funding represents a step toward that important goal which will help drive economic growth," Trade and Export Development Minister Jeremy Harrison said. "Our government appreciates the valuable support the Centre of Excellence has provided as we continue to work collaboratively to achieve that goal."

The first of the two projects will be a comprehensive study to identify the current level and types of Indigenous participation in Saskatchewan's resource sector, including through ownership of resource companies, equity ownership in projects, procurement, supply chains and direct and indirect employment. The second project will identify specific opportunities for Indigenous communities and companies to own or participate in projects associated with critical minerals.

“The First Nations in this province are not anti-resource development, but are rather interested in opportunities for responsible resource development,” Vice Chief Heather Bear said. “These projects are an opportunity to highlight how the Nations in this province can contribute to the resource sector, while at the same time, offer meaningful employment to their citizens. It’s time for inclusion of First Nations within this industry, and this is a significant step forward in meeting this objective.”

The studies will include both First Nation and Métis communities and companies, and will be completed and submitted to the ministry in March of 2023. With the announcement of the new Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment Finance Corporation, there will be more opportunities for Indigenous communities to participate as equity owners in natural resource projects.

For more information, contact:

Robin Speer
Trade and Export Development
Regina
Phone: 306-519-5006
Email: robin.speer@gov.sk.ca

[View Full News Release](#)

What’s New in the World of Weed Control?

By: Keana Boere, Intern Extension Agrologist, Tisdale

Herbicide-resistant weeds are increasing the pressure for new weed control options. Below are several new innovations in weed control, some of which are still being developed while others are commercially available.

Physical impact mill attachments on combines provide harvest weed seed control. Commercially available models include the Integrated Harrington Seed Destructor, Seed Terminator and the Saskatchewan-produced Redekop Seed Control Unit. Impact mills work by crushing and destroying weed seeds before they exit the combine with chaff and residues. This destruction prevents the seeds from germinating, eliminating them before they become weeds. One limitation with impact mills is that weed seeds need to be retained on the plant until crop harvest so they pass through the



Kochia seedlings contribute to the pressures for new weed control options.

impact mill. The impact mill is over 95 per cent effective at destroying weed seeds that enter it.

The X-Steam-inator is a non-selective form of weed control that kills weeds using high temperature steam generated from electricity. This technology is still being evaluated for large-scale field operations, and commercial scale prototypes are currently not available.

Autonomous weeding robots use sensors, cameras, and GPS to move through fields day or night, with no human operation. Lasers, small sprays of herbicide or small spinning blades are used to control weed seedlings. Sensors identify weeds from crops using leaf shapes or leaf reflectance; some can pull GPS data of seeding history to determine if a crop was planted in that exact location or if a weed has emerged. Large-scale use of these robots is still in development stages, but models are available for low-acreage, high-value cropping systems, like vegetable production.

Precision spraying technologies, like Weed-it, increase the efficiency of herbicide applications by only applying herbicide to detected weeds in a field. This reduces the amount of herbicide being used and allows for a more economical application of a diverse herbicide mix. While it could be argued that this technology on its own may only serve to delay herbicide resistance, used in combination with other weed control options it creates another tool in the toolbox. Precision spraying technologies are commercially available with different application modes including spot spray, dual spray and full coverage.

Biological weed control methods have been successfully used for years. Well-known examples involve using natural enemy insects for control of invasive weed species. Biopesticides are also being developed using natural weed pathogens and phytotoxins. Bioherbicides, biofungicides and bioinsecticides are all being investigated. These products could lead to new modes of action or herbicide selectivity to help with herbicide resistance problems.

RNA Interference technology uses RNA to silence key weed genes. Weeds will either die or become more susceptible to herbicides and other control methods when exposed to RNA. Very specific RNA sequences are used, so specific weed species can be targeted. Traits will need to be developed for a wide variety of weeds to control different species. This idea is still very much in its infancy but will likely be developed into a spray.

More technologies are being researched involving drones and genetic engineering, but their economic feasibility and efficacy varies, so an integrated weed control plan will still be required. There is potential, however, for more integrated control options to become available to producers in the future.

For more information on weed control options, contact your local ***crops extension specialist*** or call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

[View Full Article](#)

Farm Stress Line

As Saskatchewan moves into a busy spring, Agribusiness, Farmers and Ranchers may begin to be faced with factors and challenges that are often beyond their control such as weather, pests, disease, high-input costs, volatile markets and low financial returns at the farm gate. Farmers and Ranchers who endure high levels of stress may find that it can negatively affected not only their health, but their quality of life and relations.

The Farm Stress Line can help by:

- Clarifying the problem or concern and work with you toward a solution;
- Connecting you with the appropriate organization, professional or program that best suits your needs; and/or
- Listening and supporting in a safe, neutral and non-judgmental environment.

Calls to the Farm Stress Line are answered by Mobile Crisis Services, a non-profit, community based agency providing crisis intervention services in Saskatchewan since 1974.

Whether it is information, conflict or crisis, the first step is communication. Call before the problem becomes a crisis. The Farm Stress Line can help if you are managing farm difficulties by providing support for farmers and ranchers.

We respect confidentiality. There is no call display.

Farm Stress Line
Toll Free: 1-800-667-4442
24 hours per day. Seven days per week.

[Learn More](#)

[Reach Out To Us](#)

[View Our Programs](#)

[View Our Resources](#)



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

