



The Weekly Policy Bulletin

5-4-2022

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Feedback

Waterworks and Sewage Works - Red Tape Review Survey

Regulations are developed to ensure public health and safety, social well-being and environmental protection while minimizing any adverse effects the regulations may cause to businesses and Saskatchewan residents. Regulations that go beyond their intended purpose create 'red tape', which may create burdensome requirements or impact economic competitiveness. Finding ways to reduce red tape is one of the most important measures a government can take to help promote a healthy economy.

The Government of Saskatchewan is working to remove as much red tape as possible. Although red tape cannot be eliminated completely, it can be reduced. Government is preventing red tape from entering the system by using best practices during regulation development. As part of government's regulatory review process, the Water Security Agency (WSA) would like to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Waterworks and Sewage Works Regulations* and *The Environmental Management and Protection (Saskatchewan Environmental Code Adoption) Regulations* with respect to the Watermain and Sewage Main Chapters.

This online survey is open for feedback between **April 04, 2022 to April 30, 2022**, and can be found through the following link:

[Take the Survey](#)

Information

"Trading Services" Changes Name to "Member Purchasing"

Since its inception in 1905, SARM has found ways to serve RMs by helping them access the goods and services they need. This business function at SARM has

been called “Trading Services.”

Over the years, Trading Services transformed itself repeatedly to suit the needs of SARM’s members. In its earliest days, Trading Services provided essential items to RM administrators to distribute to struggling settlers in rural areas. Eventually, Trading Services became more of a mailing room where RMs could access office supplies and printed forms for meetings and elections. In more recent years, Trading Services shifted its focus again to support RMs by negotiating purchasing programs with vendors directly and with its partners.

To recognize this new era, SARM’s Trading Services department **changed its name to “Member Purchasing” in April 2022**. While “Trading Services” had a long and vibrant history, the phrase no longer has the same resonance and clarity that it once did. The goal is to be transparent and clear about the services provided.

More information about the benefits and services provided by Member Purchasing will be released in the coming weeks. Until then, please visit SARM’s Member Purchasing website to learn about the purchasing programs available to members: <https://sarm.ca/services/member-purchasing/> or reach out to SARM’s Member Purchasing Advisor, Amanda Kozak (akozak@sarm.ca; 306.761.3721)

[Learn More](#)

Water Quality Testing and Monitoring



The Government of Saskatchewan recently emphasized the importance of water quality, how it affects livestock growth, lactation, reproduction and immune system responses. It is important that Saskatchewan farmers are aware of the changes in water quality on

their land and consider water testing and monitoring throughout the year.

To learn more about livestock quality, please click the link below.

[Learn More](#)



WIN HALF OF THE
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BUY TICKETS: pattisonchildrens5050.ca | 888.808.5437

DEADLINE: April 28, 2022



Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation (JPCHF) 50/50

Purchase your JPCHF 50/50 tickets TODAY for your chance to win BIG while supporting Saskatchewan children and families. Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation 50/50, presented by Knights of Columbus Saskatoon Council #1517, has a guaranteed jackpot of \$10,000!

Deadline to buy 50/50 tickets is April 28th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

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[Purchase Tickets](#)

Police Cost Re-distribution Formula

Following the release of the Provincial budget on March 23, 2022, the Government of Saskatchewan circulated the per capita rates that will be charged out to municipalities for policing under the *Provincial Police Service Agreement* (PPSA) for 2022-2023, as set out below:

	2021-2022 rate	2022-2023 rate	Increase (10.73%)
With a Detachment	\$80.37	\$88.99	\$8.62
Without a Detachment	\$49.72	\$55.05	\$5.33

[View Letter from Ministry](#)

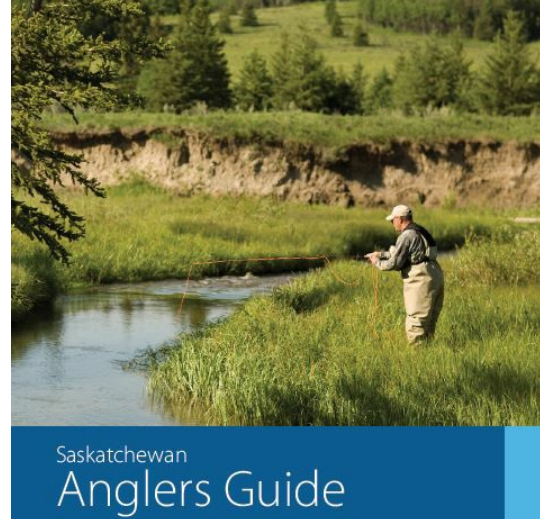
2022-23 Anglers Guide Now Available Online

On April 4th, 2022, the Government of Saskatchewan announced that the 2022-23 Saskatchewan Anglers Guide

is now available online. Outdoor enthusiasts can download the new guide to their phones or tablets for convenient access.

The new season opens May 5 in the southern management zone, May 15 in the central management zone and May 25 in the northern management zone. Anglers should be familiar with Saskatchewan's fishing regulations before heading out.

The guide serves as a vital reference for recreational and competitive anglers, with important information on catch-and-release practices, preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species and information on how to measure your catch and properly package it for transport.



2022-23



saskatchewan.ca/fishing

Saskatchewan

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Saskatchewan Delegation Heading to Germany to Support Displaced Ukrainians

On April 4, 2022, following a visit to a Ukrainian refugee centre in Germany last week, Premier Scott Moe has requested the Legislative Secretary Responsible for Saskatchewan Ukraine Relations Terry Dennis, to lead a small delegation to Germany. Working with the Embassy of Canada in Berlin, the delegation will meet with displaced Ukrainians and refugee-serving organizations to determine additional supports Saskatchewan can provide to those fleeing from the horrors of the Russian war in Ukraine.

Premier Moe has been in contact with the Government of Canada to make available resources, including immigration officers from the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program (SINP), to help process applications through the newly launched Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel program, and accelerated temporary residence pathway for Ukrainians seeking safe haven in Canada.

The Premier has also made the Saskatchewan public service available to assist the Government of Canada in any way that can benefit and expedite the immigration pathways for Ukrainians who choose to seek residence in Canada, whether on a temporary basis or permanently.

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The delegation will be in Berlin from April 10 to April 13.

[View Full News Release](#)

Resources

Interpreting Soil Testing Results Webinar



The Government of Saskatchewan recently promoted a webinar from Dr. Jeff Schoenau Professor at the University of Saskatchewan providing information on interpreting soil tests.

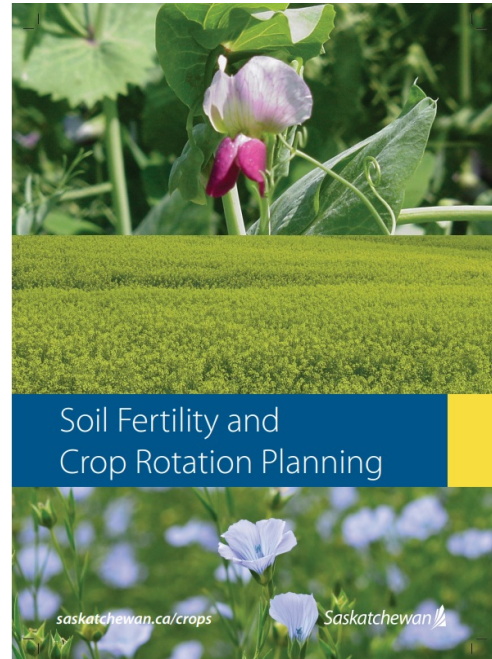
To view the webinar recording, click the link below to register.

[Register Here](#)

Soil Fertility and Crop Rotation Planning

The Government of Saskatchewan recently released the new *Soil and Fertility and Crop Rotating Planning* guide for this year. Crop rotations can be used to effectively break disease cycles and reduce pathogen levels in the soil and disease pressure between host crops.

[Download Guide](#)



FCC AgriSpirit Fund

Do you have a capital project that will enrich lives in your rural community? The FCC AgriSpirit Fund supports projects by charities, non-profit groups, First Nations bands and Metis settlements in communities of less than 150,000 people.

Types of projects we consider:

- Refrigeration and equipment to support food waste reduction and recovery
- Construction of or upgrades to community buildings
- Renovations or upgrades that reduce a building's energy footprint
- Initiatives that support agriculture and food

[*View all past projects*](#)

Who can apply?

- ***Charities registered with the Canada Revenue Agency***
- Non-profit organizations who partner with a municipal body, territorial or provincial government; the municipal body must agree to receive contributed money
- Town or city under 150,000 people, rural municipality
- First Nations band or Métis settlement
- Organizations that have not received AgriSpirit funding in the past four years
- Note: FCC employees and their immediate family members cannot apply on behalf of an organization

Eligible projects:

- Recognize FCC's contribution
- Must be completed within two years of receiving funding with documented proof
- Are capital projects that enrich the lives of community residents in communities of less than 150,000
- Successfully pass FCC's background check

[*View all FCC AgriSpirit Fund FAQs*](#)

Applications are accepted until April 29.

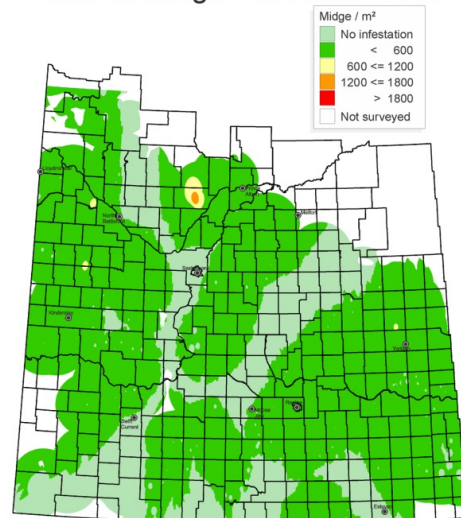
[Learn More / Apply](#)

Wheat Midge Forecast and Map

The Government of Saskatchewan recently released the 2022 Wheat Midge Forecast Map. The Government of Saskatchewan advised that most of Saskatchewan is considered low risk, but emphasized that continuing to monitor the Wheat Midge during the growing season is still important.

[Download Map](#)

Wheat Midge Forecast 2022



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Feedback

Proposed New Surface Rights Compensation Payment Enforcement Tools

The Ministry of Energy and Resources (ER) is consulting with stakeholders on proposed amendments to *The Surface Rights Acquisition and Compensation Act* and *The Oil and Gas Conservation Act*. The amendments aim to enhance the ability of the Saskatchewan Surface Rights Board of Arbitration (Board) and ER to enforce payment of compensation owing pursuant to a surface lease or a Board order.

Details on the proposed amendments may be found at the link below. Please submit written feedback on the proposed regulatory enhancements to the ER Service Desk at er.servicedesk@gov.sk.ca by **May 6, 2022**.

[View Notice of Consultation](#)

Information

Increased Investment in Emergency Medical Services to Stabilize Rural, Remote and Northern Communities

Key commitments in the 2022-23 provincial budget will see significant expansion in emergency care throughout Saskatchewan with a nearly \$11 million funding increase. An investment of \$7.3 million will support stabilization of emergency medical services (EMS) with additional paramedics, ambulances and funding in 27 communities across the province, particularly in rural, remote and northern areas.

“Our government is committed to getting emergency medical services for our residents back on track by addressing critical areas of need with a dedicated focus on rural, remote and northern communities,” Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health Minister Everett Hindley said. “EMS is a valuable part of our overall health care system, and we are grateful for the service they provide. This significant new investment with strengthen

ambulance services in 27 communities across our province.”

The new funding will add 70.7 full time equivalent positions and will address critical priority areas in the following communities:

Beauval	Beechy	Big River
Blaine Lake	Buffalo Narrows	Cut Knife
Frontier	Humboldt	Imperial
Indian Head	Kipling	Kyle
La Ronge	Lloydminster	Macklin
Maple Creek	Meadow Lake	Melfort
Melville	Moosomin	Naicam
North Battleford	Oxbow	Redvers
Rosetown	St. Walburg	Yorkton

Also included in the \$11 million budget increase for emergency medical services is \$653,000 to expand community paramedicine to rural and northern communities by adding three additional full-time positions and covering training costs to further enhance and stabilize available supports.

The community paramedicine positions will be split as follows:

- One between Beauval and Buffalo Narrows;
- One among Wynyard, Wadena and Wakaw, and potentially other locations in the area; and
- One will be targeted to one or more First Nations communities.

Community paramedicine provides patients with increased access to mobile health services closer to home. Paramedics apply their training and skills in community-based environments, often outside the usual emergency response and transportation model.

Also, \$1.5 million will provide ongoing support for wage increases implemented in 2021 for paramedics working for contracted EMS services to help recruit and retain staff.

A full list of communities and details on investments are included in the Backgrounder.

For more information, contact:

Health

Regina

Phone: 306-787-4083

Email: media@health.gov.sk.ca

Saskatchewan Health Authority

Regina

Phone: 1-833-766-4392

Email: media@saskhealthauthority.ca

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[View Backgrounder](#)



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[Purchase Tickets](#)

Saskatchewan Invests More Than \$1 Million in 23 New Municipal Projects

On April 5, 2022, Government Relations Minister Don McMorris announced 23 new municipal projects that will receive a combined provincial investment of more than \$1 million under the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative.

The TSS Initiative supports municipalities partnering to strengthen their core municipal responsibilities through projects focused on good governance, capacity building and regional co-operation. Funding is provided through cost-shared grants, covering up to 75 per cent of eligible project costs.

Projects are approved after a thorough review process by the TSS Steering Committee, which consists of representatives from SUMA, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities (New North) and the Ministry of Government Relations.

"SARM is pleased to see continued funding and uptake of the Targeted Sector Support Initiative," SARM President Ray Orb said. "This latest installment of TSS funding will enable municipalities to focus on projects that lead to better

governance and enhanced co-operation amongst municipalities. We certainly appreciate the opportunity to participate on the steering committee and collaborate with the other members. We all want to ensure that Saskatchewan municipalities have every opportunity to remain vibrant and strong."

Examples of approved projects include:

- Providing regional governance training for municipal councils and administration.
- Undergoing a feasibility study to determine options for safe water treatment between neighbouring municipalities.
- Drafting a district community plan to guide regional co-operation and development.
- Hosting relationship and capacity building exercises among communities.

This is the third round of successful projects approved under the TSS Initiative, which receives \$1.5 million each year from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Program. Since 2020, \$4.5 million of provincial funds has been made available to Saskatchewan municipalities through the TSS Initiative. Funding is administered by SUMA on behalf of the TSS Steering Committee.

Grant recipients and their approved projects are outlined in the attached backgrounder.

For more information, contact:

Shaylyn McMahon
Government Relations
Regina
Phone: 306-787-4340
Email: shaylyn.mcmahon@gov.sk.ca
Sarah MacMillan
SUMA
Phone: 306-525-4396
Email: communications@suma.org

Corette Mihalcea
SARM
Phone: 306-761-3931
Email: communications@sarm.ca
Susan McKenzie
New North
Phone: 306-425-5505
Email: programmrg.new.north@sasktel.net

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[View Backgrounder](#)

Supporting a Growing Saskatchewan Technology and Research Sector

On April 5, 2022, the government

Growing SK Tech
& Research Sectors

Innovation Saskatchewan
Amendment Act, 2022

innovationsask.ca

 innovation
SASKATCHEWAN



introduced *The Innovation Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2022* to further support the growth of the technology and research sector in the province.

The legislation provides authority for Innovation Saskatchewan to own and operate the technology and research parks currently assigned to Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation (SOCO) for the purposes of creating a single innovation agency in the province.

"This move positions Innovation Saskatchewan as the leader in a sector that is key to our economic recovery," Minister Responsible for Innovation Saskatchewan Jeremy Harrison said.

"Innovation Saskatchewan has been a highly effective agency for the strategic and rapid deployment of policies and programs with an enormous impact on the growth of the innovation sector," SaskTech President and Siemens appointee - an industry organization that represents Saskatchewan technology companies - Aaron Genest said.

Innovation Saskatchewan works directly with industry and external stakeholders to support the commercialization of research and technology and to grow the province's technology sector.

The changes in the Act will allow Innovation Saskatchewan to operate the research parks located at the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan. As a single integrated agency, it will have a clear mandate to drive innovation and ownership in delivering on the goal of tripling the tech sector in the province by 2030 by leveraging infrastructure assets. It will provide additional support to start ups and early-stage technology companies and an effective way to encourage new and established technology companies from Canada and around the world to relocate and grow in the province.

For more information, contact:

Robin Speer
Innovation Saskatchewan
Regina
Phone: 306-519-5006
Email: robin.speer@gov.sk.ca

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Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan Further Support Research Demonstration Projects

On April 6, 2022, the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announced more than \$885,000 for 43 projects through the Agriculture Demonstration of Practices and Technologies (ADOPT) program.

The ADOPT Program provides funding to assist producer groups to evaluate and demonstrate new agricultural practices and technologies at the local level. The results of successful trials can then be adopted by agricultural operations in the region.



A total of \$26,625 in support of five of these projects was contributed by two industry co-funders, the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association and Fertilizer Canada

ADOPT is funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP), a five-year, \$3 billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments that supports Canada's agriculture, agri-food and agri-products sectors. This includes a \$2 billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories, including a \$388 million investment in strategic initiatives for Saskatchewan agriculture. The current CAP program began in 2018 and was the successor of the Growing Forward 2 program.

Since beginning in 2009, ADOPT commits \$800,000 per year in funding to evaluate new agricultural practices and technologies. There are two intake periods for this program in June and November of each year. Information on the ADOPT program and past projects are available on the [ministry website](#).

For more information, contact:

Shalyn McKenna

Agriculture

Regina

Phone: 306-787-5174

Email: shalyn.mckenna@gov.sk.ca

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Ottawa, Ontario

Phone: 613-773-7972

Email: aafc.mediarelations-relationsmedias.aac@canada.ca

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[Learn More](#)

Saskatchewan Announces Investment of \$1 Million to Promote Careers in the Hospitality Sector

\$1 Million to Hospitality Sector

Attracting, training and retaining employees to help recover the sector.

saskatchewan.ca



On April 6, 2022, the Government of Saskatchewan announced support of \$1 million to Hospitality Saskatchewan to help them promote careers in Saskatchewan's hospitality and tourism sector. Saskatchewan's hospitality sector, like many other jurisdictions in North America, was one of the first and hardest hit by the global pandemic over the past two years, resulting in a labour shortage in the province.

The funding will enable Hospitality Saskatchewan to launch an aggressive recruitment strategy, *Belong Saskatchewan*. "Belong Saskatchewan" will target the attraction of domestic and international workers. This program will leverage the Hard-To-Fill Skills Pilot to target individuals living and working in Canada under restricted or temporary conditions and are eager to achieve permanent residency.

There are currently thousands of job postings in the hospitality sector on saskjobs.ca.

For more information on career opportunities in the Saskatchewan hospitality sector, please contact Info@hospitalitysk.ca.

For more information, contact:

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

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Reminders

Police Cost Re-distribution Formula

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With a Detachment	\$80.37	\$88.99	\$8.62
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For more information regarding the police cost re-distribution formula, please click the link below to read the full letter from the Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety.

[View Full Letter from Ministry](#)

Lottery License #125-024



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[Visit our website](#)

Feedback

Vehicle Weight and Dimension Regulations, 2010 – Red Tape Review.

Ministry of Highways is looking to consult with Rural Municipalities regarding the proposed recommendations resulting from the Ministry of Highways *Vehicle Weight and Dimension Regulations, 2010* – Red Tape Review.

They seek feedback on the attached document and are looking for feedback on the following:

1. Whether or not there are specific incidents or concerns that rural municipalities would like to share about commercial trucking in the province?
2. Whether or not rural municipalities are supportive of the proposed recommendations and/or they have any advice to strengthen?
3. Whether or not there are any questions or concerns about the findings or recommendations?

The Ministry of Highways would request that RMs provide their input or contact them with any questions about this review through Zaki Hussain, Manager of Transportation Policy at zaki.hussain@gov.sk.ca by **April 25th, 2022**.

[View Red Tape Review](#)

Information

Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) - Need to Know & Webinar

Need to Know is an unclassified open-source, multi-platform media collation, produced by CSIS Academic Outreach & Stakeholder Engagement, on issues considered relevant to Canada's broad national security interests. The objective 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.

The CSIS will also be hosting a webinar for SARM members on May 12, 2022, where they will provide information on the current threat landscape in Canada with a focus on cyber security, economic security, espionage, and foreign interference. They will let you know what is happening, who is targeted, what you need to know and what you can do about it to protect yourselves, your businesses, and your municipalities. Following the briefing there will be an opportunity for Q&A.

Title: Canada's Threat Landscape and What it Means to You

Date: May 12, 2022

Time: 10-11 a.m. CST

Speakers: Intelligence Professionals – CSIS

[Register Here](#)

Record April Oil and Gas Public Offering Raises \$19.3 Million

Saskatchewan's April public offering of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights, held on Tuesday, April 5, has generated \$19,307,203.94 in revenue for the province, more than ten times the revenue generated by the April 2021 offering.

The April sale is the first of six oil and gas public offerings scheduled for the 2022-23 fiscal year. The previous five sales raised \$6.1 million in February 2022, \$1.4 million in December, \$1.9 million in October, \$3.1 million in August, and \$0.5 million in June 2021. With this result, public offerings for the 2022-23 fiscal year have already exceeded 2021-22's total of \$14,988,127.34.

Of the 208 parcels offered, 169 parcels received acceptable bids, representing over 23,000 total hectares.

The next sale of the current 2022-23 fiscal year is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

For more information, contact:

Robin Speer
Energy and Resources
Regina
Phone: 306-519-5006
Email: robin.speer@gov.sk.ca

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SGI Providing \$5.6 Million to Volunteer Firefighter Departments in Saskatchewan for Training, Equipment

SGI is investing \$5.6 million to train and equip volunteer firefighters who respond to vehicle collisions on Saskatchewan roads.

The money will be used for a program that will be the first of its kind in Canada. The program's objectives are:

- To fund the delivery of training courses that allow volunteer firefighters to meet minimum standards for auto extrication; and
- Purchasing tools and equipment that support that training.

The fund will be managed and distributed by the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA), who will consult with SGI, the Provincial Standards Training Committee, fire service stakeholders and other Government of Saskatchewan ministries during program development.

The SPSA will work with the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, the Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs and other stakeholders to develop auto extrication training standards and establish a fair and equitable process for purchasing tools and equipment.

For more information, contact:

Tyler McMurchy
SGI
Regina
Phone: 306-751-1837
Email: tmcmurchy@sgi.sk.ca
Cell: 306-535-6207

Doug Lapchuk
Saskatchewan Volunteer Firefighters Association
Regina
Phone: 306-570-7791

Jody Lucious
Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency
Regina
Phone: 306-535-1255
Email: jody.lucious@gov.sk.ca

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Government Increases Commitment to Supporting Stroke Awareness Campaign

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing funding of \$75,000 to the Heart and Stroke Foundation toward their FAST public awareness campaign, an increase of \$25,000 from previous years.

The effectiveness of stroke treatment strongly depends on patients accessing appropriate care as soon as possible after symptom onset. Campaign messaging encourages people to call 911 in order to be transported quickly by ambulance to the appropriate stroke centre.

LEARN THE SIGNS OF STROKE



© Heart And Stroke Foundation of Canada, 2014

In 2020, stroke was the 5th leading cause of death in Canada and in Saskatchewan. There is some indication that COVID conditions have contributed to public reluctance to seek care for health emergencies. If you or someone you know are experiencing symptoms of Stroke do not delay. There are strong protocols to swiftly deal with strokes that greatly improve health outcomes.

If you are experiencing stroke symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately. Do not drive to the hospital. Calling 9-1-1 triggers a "Stroke Alert," which pre-notifies the stroke centre and ensures the stroke team is prepared to start treatment as soon as the patient arrives. As well, early patient assessment and management can begin en route in the ambulance.

For more information, visit www.heartandstroke.ca.

For further information, contact:

Health
Regina
Phone: 306-787-4083
Email: media@health.gov.sk.ca

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Firearms Advisory Committee Established

Government has appointed a Firearms Advisory Committee to provide recommendations on firearms policy to the Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety and the Chief Firearms Officer.

The committee will provide input and feedback from the Saskatchewan firearms community on firearms education, licensing, transportation, the licensing of firearms ranges and public safety concerns.

The following individuals have been appointed to the committee:

- Gilbert White, Chairperson
- Geoffrey Dufour, Board Member

- Dan D'Autremont, Board Member
- Garry Breitzkreuz, Board Member
- John Lawson, Board Member
- Joyce Lorenz, Board Member
- Darryl Yausie, Board Member

These appointees represent a broad range of organizations and groups, including the Saskatchewan Association of Firearm Education (SAFE), Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, Saskatchewan Trappers Association, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Canadian Sport Shooting Association, firearms safety instructors, hunters, sports shooters and anglers.

In 2021, Saskatchewan moved 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:

Noel Busse
Corrections, Policing and Public Safety
Regina
Phone: 306-787-8959
Email: Noel.busse@gov.sk.ca

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Animal Health Control Area Order Limits Poultry Events Due to Avian Influenza

An animal health control area order has been put in place in Saskatchewan to limit the co-mingling of poultry, due to the risk of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).

The order from Saskatchewan's Chief Veterinary Officer prohibits the movement to and participation of birds in shows, auctions and agricultural fairs, as well as any other events where birds would be brought together from multiple locations. The order is in effect immediately and will be in place until May 14, 2022, when the situation will be revisited.

The intent of this order is to temporarily reduce the likelihood of direct contact between birds from different locations during the period of time where the risk for HPAI outbreaks is imminent. By implementing this order, the risk of disease transmission between flocks is reduced.

Producers should contact their veterinarian immediately if they have concerns about the health status of their flocks. If HPAI is suspected, producers should also contact their local Canadian Food Inspection Agency office.

Anyone with further questions on avian influenza in poultry can contact the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Unit at 1-306-787-2150.

For more information, contact:

Angela Hall
Agriculture
Regina
Phone: 306-787-2359
Email: angela.hall@gov.sk.ca

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Government Signs Multi-Year Virtual Care Contract

On April 14, 2022, the Government of Saskatchewan was pleased to announce Lumeca, a Saskatchewan company, was the successful vendor in an RFP to replace the platform for secure video conferencing for healthcare professionals. Under this service agreement, Lumeca will provide the virtual visits system to deliver healthcare virtually for clinicians, care providers and the 1.2 million people that reside in the province.

This exciting new development is the start of a new era for Saskatchewan health care. This new agreement will enable health care providers to offer more options for their practice by using virtual appointments to supplement in-person care, providing Saskatchewan patients and their families easier and more convenient communications with their providers. There will be a website and Apple/Android apps available for health care provider and patient use in the coming months.

The new platform replaces the former tool used by health care providers during the pandemic.

"Lumeca is here to simplify the patient-doctor relationship. We are proud to be the provider of this new government program available to 3,500 health care providers across our great province," Lumeca Health Inc. CEO Tom Douglass said. "Our team has worked very hard to build this solution in Saskatchewan for Saskatchewan people."

For more information, contact:

Health
Regina
Phone: 306-787-4083
Email: media@health.gov.sk.ca

[View Full News Release](#)

Ambulances, Fire trucks, Now Among Vehicles Allowed to Use Blue Lights

You're now more likely to see blue lights flashing when there is an emergency in Saskatchewan.

The Government of Saskatchewan has amended The Vehicle Equipment Regulations to allow more emergency vehicles to add blue flashing lights to their existing lights.

The law goes into effect immediately and impacts:

- ambulances and fire-fighting vehicles; and
- emergency vehicles that have been designated by a municipality or the Highway Traffic Board to be used in response to an emergency.

Emergency vehicles covered under this legislative change are not required to be equipped with blue lights; organizations that wish to incorporate this into their fleet now have the option to do so.

Police vehicles, tow trucks, service vehicles and snowplows were already permitted to use blue flashing lights in Saskatchewan. Remember: drivers must slow to 60 kilometres per hour when passing emergency vehicles or tow trucks stopped at roadside with lights flashing, no matter what colour those lights are.

*SARM has an active resolution, Resolution 20-19M: Adding Flashing Blue and Amber Lights to Municipal Equipment (**Adding Flashing Blue and Amber Lights to Municipal Equipment - SARM | Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities**), related to SGI's recent announcement. SARM acknowledges that this is a step in the right direction, however we still have work to do to satisfy this resolution's asks from the RMs.*

[View Full News Release](#)

Resources

Agri-Food Innovation Council: AIC Spring Engagement Session

AIC's Spring Engagement Session is coming up fast, the AIC is where you can learn about what others are doing, where you find ways to collaborate, where you network and discuss best practices, news of the sector, funding, etc. AIC's Spring Engagement Session is where the agri-food research and innovation sector comes together to be stronger.

Cow-Calf Water Protection BMP

The pre-approval application deadline for the Cow-Calf Water Protection BMP is August 31, 2022. Cow-calf producers interested in protecting their water resources by preventing spring runoff from entering their livestock facilities can [apply here](#).

Producers are encourage to review the [Cow-Calf Water Protection BMP](#) before applying to see if they are eligible.

For more information [click here](#) to view Canadian Agricultural Partnership's (CAP) Farm Stewardship Program: Cow-Calf Water Protection BMP virtual presentation.

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



The Weekly Policy Bulletin

26-4-2022

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Reminders



WIN HALF OF THE
JACKPOT
AND HELP
SASKATCHEWAN KIDS

BUY TICKETS: pattisonchildrens5050.ca | 888.808.5437

DEADLINE: April 28, 2022



PRESENTED BY
Knights of Columbus
Saskatoon Council #1517

Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation (JPCHF) 50/50

Purchase your JPCHF 50/50 tickets TODAY for your chance to win BIG while supporting Saskatchewan children and families. Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation 50/50, presented by Knights of Columbus Saskatoon Council #1517, has a guaranteed jackpot of \$10,000!

Deadline to buy 50/50 tickets is April 28th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

The draw date will be made on April 29th, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital Foundation office in Saskatoon, SK. The winner will be notified by email or phone with instructions on claiming their prize.

Tickets are on sale now! 1 for \$20, 5 for \$50, 20 for \$100, 100 for \$250

[Visit our website](#)

Feedback

Air Zone Management Program Stakeholder Survey

The survey is open for

SARM received a request from the Ministry of

response until April 29, 2022.

Please note that the survey responses are not anonymous in order to provide context and allow for follow-up if required.

Environment (the “ministry”) for members to assist in the ministry’s review of the Air Zone Management Program (the “program”).

The ministry asks that SARM members participate in an online survey about the program providing honest feedback. The ministry provided a discussion document and quick reference guide to assist with the review of the program. The aim of having members complete this survey is for the ministry to accurately evaluate the program and ensure that the program is effective.

Time commitment:

1. One to two hours to review the discussion document and/or quick reference guide at your convenience. We recommend you consult your organization’s colleagues as appropriate to best represent your organization.
2. Twenty (20) to thirty (30) minutes to complete the online survey.

The ministry asks that you contact Kathryn Turner at Kathryn.turner@gov.sk.ca if you have any questions regarding the discussion paper and/or the quick reference guide.

[View Discussion Document](#)

[View Quick Reference Guide](#)

[Take the Survey](#)

Further Strengthening Protection of Health and the Environment: Targeted Review of the Pest Control Products Act (PCPA)



Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has invited stakeholders and the public to participate in its consultation period on **Further Strengthening Protection of Health and the Environment: Targeted Review of the Pest Control Products Act (PCPA)**.

The primary focuses are to:

1. further strengthen human health and environmental protection through modernized business processes for the review of pesticides;
2. improve transparency and public access to information and data across the regulatory pesticide processes; and
3. increase the use of comprehensive, real-world data on water monitoring, crop production and pesticide use, as well as independent scientific advice

It is critical that the agriculture industry of Saskatchewan put forward a strong response to the consultation in support of science-based pesticide regulation to ensure that Canadian farmers continue to have timely access to the innovative tools they need to sustainably grow food for Canada and the world for generations to come.

CropLife Canada, along with its partners in **Advancing Agriculture**, launched a digital letter writing campaign to encourage individuals within the agriculture industry to respond to the consultation, along with the Minister of Health, the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and their individuals MP.

Click here to **send a letter** and participate in the letter writing campaign. We hope that RMs take the opportunity to review and respond to the consultation. To assist, we have included the Consultation document, Discussion document and a copy of the *Pest Control Act*.

[View Consultation Document](#)[View Discussion Document](#)[Pest Control Products Act](#)[Send a Letter](#)

Information

Province and Office of the Treaty Commissioner Announce Design of First-In-Canada Treaty Boundary Signage

The Government of Saskatchewan and Office of the Treaty Commissioner are coordinating official Treaty boundary signage in the province. The first signs marking the boundary between Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 Territory will be located along Highway 11 between Regina and Saskatoon in the Bladworth/Davidson area.

The Treaty Commissioner and provincial officials championed the design of the forthcoming signs that highlight the Treaty medals that were provided to Indigenous leadership following the close of the Treaty negotiations and using the wording of the original Treaties to indicate

they will remain valid "as long as the sun shines, grass grows and rivers flow." The design also features a welcome in the respective Indigenous languages of each Treaty area. This aligns with the province's efforts to recognize, acknowledge and revitalize Indigenous languages.

Welcome To Treaty 4
aaniin-háu-tawāw



As long as the sun shines,
grass grows and rivers flow

Welcome To Treaty 6
aaniin-haǎ hau-tawāw



As long as the sun shines,
grass grows and rivers flow

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways is coordinating the production and installation of the signs, with a public unveiling and ceremony planned for later in 2022. This will make Saskatchewan the first province in Canada to mark Treaty boundaries along major provincial highways.

For more information, contact:

Jonathan Tremblay
Government Relations
Regina

Phone: 306-787-6156

Email: jonathan.tremblay@gov.sk.ca

Angie Merasty

Office of the Treaty Commissioner
Saskatoon

Phone: 306-244-2100

Email: amerasty@otc.ca

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Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) encourages you to nominate an individual or small group in recognition of their dedication to and excellent achievement in one of the following categories:

- Resilient Communities
- Search and Rescue Volunteers
- Search and Rescue Employees
- Youth (under 30)
- Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Management

This is an opportunity for Saskatchewan's emergency management professionals and volunteers to be recognized amongst peers from across the province and Canada.

Nominations can be submitted both federally and provincially, depending on the award category.

For more information about the award and the nomination process on the Public Safety Canada, [click here](#).

The deadline to submit nominations is July 1, 2022.

For provincial nominations, please send your completed nomination forms to spsa@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More](#)

Take Precautions Against Hantavirus During Spring Cleanup



Saskatchewan residents are being reminded to take precautions against hantavirus as they start spring cleanup of enclosed buildings or vehicles.

Hantavirus infection is caused by breathing in contaminated airborne particles from the droppings, urine and saliva of infected deer mice. It can cause a rare, but potentially

fatal lung disease known as hantavirus pulmonary syndrome.

Symptoms usually start within one to six weeks of exposure. They include fever, muscle aches, cough, headaches, nausea and vomiting.

Some people develop severe symptoms that can be life threatening. Seek medical attention immediately if you have a cough, fever and shortness of breath.

Take the following precautions when cleaning rodent infested areas:

- ventilate the building by opening doors and windows, and then leave the area for at least 30 minutes before cleaning;
- avoid using dry cleaning methods such as dusting, sweeping, vacuuming or air-hosing;
- use wet mopping methods and wear rubber or plastic gloves;
- wear goggles and a well-fitting N-95 type filter mask when cleaning areas contaminated by droppings;
- dampen areas contaminated with rodent droppings with bleach disinfectant and remove droppings with a damp mop or cloth;
- steam clean, shampoo or spray upholstered furniture with a detergent, disinfectant or a mixture of bleach and water; and
- wash exposed clothes and bedding with detergent in hot water.

Prevention is also recommended to reduce rodent infestations:

- block openings that might allow rodents to enter a building;
- store human and animal food, water and garbage in pest-proof/resistant containers with tightly-fitted lids; and
- move woodpiles or other potential hiding places for mice away from your home.

Between 1994 and 2021, 36 cases of hantavirus pulmonary syndrome were reported in Saskatchewan; 12 of those cases were fatal.

For more information on hantavirus, visit: ***Hantavirus | Diseases and Conditions | Government of Saskatchewan*** and ***HealthLine Online***.

For advice on symptoms or when to seek care, call HealthLine 811.

For more information, contact:

Health

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High Pathogenic Avian Influenza

Recently there has been a focus on the Government of Saskatchewan's work with the poultry industry and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on the federally reported disease known as the Avian Influenza.

Two infected areas have been noted in Saskatchewan, one small flock in the Carlyle area and one commercial premises in the Loreburn area. The areas are currently under quarantine and being depopulated by the CFIA. The disease is under continual review for outbreaks by the CFIA.

Producers are encouraged to follow good biosecurity practices to minimize their risk of Avian Influenza. The Ministry has put forward resources available to best practices and what to do if producers or any other person suspects Avian Influenza.

Ministry of Agriculture: information about Avian Influenza, steps producers can take to minimize risk along with contact information and what to do if you suspect Avian Influenza.

[Avian Influenza in Poultry | Animal Health and Welfare | Government of Saskatchewan](#)

CFIA: information on Avian Influenza and infected flocks across Canada.
[Avian influenza \(bird flu\) - Canadian Food Inspection Agency \(canada.ca\)](#)

For more information or for any questions or concerns, contact:

Wendy Wilkins, DVM PhD
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 306-798-0253 (wk)
Email: wendy.wilkins@gov.sk.ca

Shalyn McKenna
Ministry of Agriculture
Phone: 306-787-5174
Email: shalyn.mckenna@gov.sk.ca

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Another \$15.3 Million for Rural Highway Improvements

A successful partnership between the Government of Saskatchewan and

Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) continues to improve roads through its Rural Integrated Roads for Growth (RIRG) program. More than 41 municipalities and communities are set to receive \$15.3 million in RIRG funding in Phase four of the program to address 56 projects.

RIRG provides financial support to RMs with the cost of constructing and upgrading rural infrastructure, which helps local industries including agriculture, energy and forestry. The program grants cover up to 50 per cent of each project's total cost, to a maximum of \$500,000.

Phase 4 will include 56 road projects valued at a total cost \$43.2 million.

This year's provincial budget will improve more than 1,100 kilometres of highways, for a total of more than 3,500 kilometres of highways improved over the past three years. The Government of Saskatchewan has invested about \$11.5 billion in highways infrastructure since 2008, improving more than 18,400 kilometres of Saskatchewan highways.

Phase Four Grants

Rural Integrated Roads for Growth

RM#	RM Name	Total Funding Allocation
19	Frontier	\$31,800
33	Moose Creek	\$500,000
65	Tecumseh	\$500,000
66	Griffin	\$500,000
94	Hazelwood	\$303,088
95	Golden West	\$500,000
101	Terrell	\$165,459
128	Lajord	\$80,000
151	Rocanville	\$500,000
154	Elcapo	\$500,000
155	Wolseley	\$392,355
159	Sherwood	\$450,000
183	Fertile Belt	\$500,000
185	McLeod	\$500,000
186	Abernethy	\$150,000
213	Saltcoats	\$356,681
217	Lipton	\$206,769
222	Craik	\$253,650
243	Wallace	\$232,443
246	Ituna Bon Accord	\$500,000
252	Arm River	\$377,767
257	Monet	\$500,000
259	Snipe Lake	\$500,000
260	Newcombe	\$400,538
275	Insinger	\$500,000
277	Emerald	\$275,689
314	Dundurn	\$180,323
315	Montrose	\$85,000
366	Kelvington	\$350,000
367	Ponass Lake	\$500,000
371	Bayne	\$150,000
398	Pleasantdale	\$500,000
400	Three Lakes	\$361,492
404	Laird	\$375,000
428	Star City	\$500,000
434	Blaine Lake	\$347,500
461	Prince Albert	\$402,500
468	Meota	\$500,000
471	Eldon	\$500,000
494	Canwood	\$414,900
	Pending Agreement	\$500,000
40 RMs	56 Projects	\$15,300,000

saskatchewan.ca

Saskatchewan!

For more information, contact:

Steve Shaheen
Highways
Saskatoon
Phone: 306-260-9159
Email: steve.shaheen@gov.sk.ca

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Resources

See a Wild Pig, Report a Wild Pig

SCIC Reporting: 1-888-935-0000

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation, the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC), Saskatchewan Pork Development Board (SaskPork), Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and the Saskatchewan Trappers Association have expanded monitoring of the feral pig population in Saskatchewan. This work complements the ongoing monitoring and control efforts conducted by SCIC.

SaskPork Hotline: 1-833-PIG-SPOT

Agriculture Knowledge Centre: 1-866-457-2377

Learn more about the ***Feral Wild Boar Control Program*** and the ***Wildlife Damage Compensation Program***.

Although the news about feral pig removals is encouraging, help is still needed if we want to eradicate this pest. Public reporting helps the established teams to catch these pests. Saskatchewan producers and landowners can access support for controlling feral wild boar. SCIC coordinates qualified hunters and trappers with Rural Municipalities and landowners to investigate sightings and take appropriate action to deal with feral wild boar. When an individual sees a wild boar, they should contact their local SCIC office as soon as possible. SCIC investigates every sighting that is reported and will review the information and determine the next step for responding to it. If you have game camera footage, please contact SCIC and they will provide an address to forward a picture and location.

For more information about the Feral Wild Boar Control Program or to report a wild boar sighting, contact your local SCIC office, call the SCIC Reporting phone number or the SaskPork reporting line. More information on the Feral Wild Boar Program or the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program is available at ***Saskatchewan Crop Insurance***.

[Learn More](#)

Local Food Infrastructure Fund

The Local Food Infrastructure Fund (LFIF) is a 5-year, \$60 million initiative ending March 31, 2024. The application intake period will start June 1, 2022 and will end **July 15, 2022**.

It was created as part of the Government of Canada's Food Policy for a healthier and more sustainable food system in Canada.

This fund is targeted **only** to applicants who fall within at least 1 of the following categories:

- Located in rural communities (population under 1,000)
- Small cities (population between 1,000-29,999)
- Indigenous groups in either urban centers or rural areas (for example, Indigenous governments/communities, Indigenous not-for-profit organizations)

Also, eligible applicants must:

- have a mission to reduce food insecurity
- be a legal entity, capable of entering into a legally-binding agreement
- consist of a(n)
- Indigenous group (for example, not-for-profit organization, government or community)
- community or charitable organization (for example not-for-profit organization)
- not-for-profit co-operative
- municipality (population under 30,000)

The fund will focus on projects that either create a portion of (or expand) a food system or implement an entire food system.

Projects must be infrastructure specific and be community-driven, dedicated to improving access to healthy, nutritious and local foods for Canadians at risk of food insecurity. Eligible projects must create 2 or more new food system components with the goal to create, expand and/or complete your community's food system.

This fund aims to increase the resiliency of these food systems at the local level, making them more socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.

For more information, [click here](#).

For examples of eligible project, [click here](#).

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