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Reminders

2022 Midterm Resolution Deadline

This is a reminder that the deadline for submitting resolutions for the upcoming 2022 Midterm Convention is **Sunday, October 2, 2022,** end of day (**not Sunday, September 25, 2022 as previously mentioned in our July 27, 2022 email**). Resolutions must be received in the SARM office by this date in order to be addressed at the convention and included in the resolution booklet. Please email resolutions to **resolutions@sarm.ca**.

Attached for your convenience are the Guide for Writing Resolutions and the Resolution Submission Form.

Please remember that each resolution submission must include a brief (no more than 500 word) background that answers the questions provided in the attached resolution submission form.

Resolution Writing
Guide

Resolution Submission Form

Information

Ministry Response to SARM's Feedback on Proposed Amendments

On June 22, 2022, SARM submitted feedback to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Government Relations on proposed amendments to *The Local Improvements Act, 1993, The Local Government Election Act, 2015,* and municipal compliance requirements. Please see the response SARM received from Government Relations Minister Don McMorris.



View Response

Saskatchewan Municipalities Encouraged to Apply for Targeted Sector Support Funding

[On September 1, 2022], Government Relations Minister Don McMorris and the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Steering Committee announced an intake of municipal grant applications under the TSS Initiative.

The TSS Initiative provides cost-shared grants, up to 75 per cent on eligible costs, to municipalities partnering on projects focused on regional cooperation, capacity building and good governance. Applicants must be a municipal government and partner with at least one other community, such as other municipalities, First Nations and regional committees.

Applications for this intake will be accepted from **September 1 to November 15, 2022.**

Examples of previously approved projects include:

- Training to enhance the governance skills of municipal officials;
- Developing regional emergency plans;
- · Undertaking a municipal district feasibility study; and
- Various other projects aimed at strengthening collaboration and cooperation among municipalities.

Read Full News Release

Learn More / Apply

Resources

SaskPower Virtual Interactive Workshops



SaskPower is in the beginning stage

of developing a long-term power supply plan – one that meets their greenhouse gas emission targets as well as the needs and expectations of their customers.

Collaborative Visioning Workshops

Join SaskPower's team and others from around Saskatchewan for an interactive workshop. These workshops will involve reflection on what SaskPower has heard in previous engagements, explore what you need from SaskPower during this upcoming energy transition, and brainstorm ideas for the experience the power grid of tomorrow might provide.

Choosing a session

SaskPower has organized their sessions into two types, based on the level of participant knowledge.

Level I - Introductory Sessions

These sessions are designed primarily for people who are new to power supply planning, are residential or farm customers.

Level 2 - Advanced Sessions

Advanced sessions are designed primarily for those that have participated previously, or customers with a deeper understanding of integrated power supply planning.

How to register

Online registration is open now with dates available between September 12th and 15th. To help accommodate availability, sessions are being hosted in the morning, over the lunch hour, and in the evening.

Dates and times are listed below. You can complete your registration online at *Join the Conversation (saskpower.com)*

Past sessions have filled up quickly, so please register early to secure your preferred time.

Level 1 – Introductory Sessions	Level 2 – Advanced Sessions
Monday, Sept 12 th	Tuesday, Sept 13 th
• 9-10:30am	• 12-1:30pm
• 12-1:30pm	
	Wednesday, Sept 14 th
Tuesday, Sept 13 th	• 9-10:30am
• 9-10:30am	
	Thursday, Sept 15 th
Wednesday, Sept 14 th	• 9-10:30am
• 7-8:30pm	• 12-1:30pm

Register Now

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Information

Saskatchewan Launches Aggressive Health Human Resources Action Plan



The Government of Saskatchewan is releasing further details on its four-point action plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain healthcare workers, which is included as part of the 2022-23 Budget.

This historic Health Human Resources Action Plan directly connects to Saskatchewan's Growth Plan.

Investment in the plan to recruit, train, incentivize, and retain healthcare workers, including physicians and registered nurses, will amount to over \$60 million over the next several years. Government, the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) and affiliates, are activating a number of initiatives guided by these four pillars to develop pathways to success, including:

Recruit

Hundreds of new healthcare workers will be recruited over two years from abroad and newcomers interested in working within the healthcare sector. Senior officials will lead a healthcare recruitment mission to the Philippines this fall to promote available opportunities to work in Saskatchewan.

Train

Saskatchewan is the first province in Canada to introduce an accelerated training, assessment and licensure pathway for internationally educated nurses that includes supports for overseas recruits to settle and start work in the province. The first cohort from the Philippines will begin online training in Fall 2022 prior to arriving in Saskatchewan.

Incentivize

A new incentive program is being launched which will provide up to \$50,000 over three years for a return-of-service agreement for hard-to-recruit positions mainly in rural and remote areas.

Retain

Across the province, 100 new permanent full-time positions will be added and 150 part-time positions will be converted to full-time permanent positions for high-demand professions in rural and remote areas.

Read Full News Release

Learn More

Saskatchewan Recognizes World Suicide Prevention Day

The Government of Saskatchewan is recognizing September 10, 2022 as World Suicide Prevention Day. Members of the Legislative Assembly are sharing their own experiences so that people who are struggling know that they are not alone, that there is hope and there is help.

Help is only a phone call away. People who are struggling are encouraged to dial 8-1-1 to speak to a health care professional about the challenges they are experiencing. Healthline 811 is a confidential, 24/7 call-in service staffed by health care professionals who can also help connect you with other supports and services available through Saskatchewan's health care system.

Suicide is something that affects people of all walks of life. Checking in with family and family can be the first step toward making a difference in the life of someone experiencing crisis.

Pillars for Life: The Saskatchewan Suicide Prevention Plan is posted at saskatchewan.ca/pillars-for-life along with information about resources available on suicide prevention and mental health. Some key provincial suicide prevention initiatives include:

- suicide prevention initiatives in northern communities through Roots of Hope, an initiative supported by the Mental Health Commission of Canada;
- an online suicide prevention toolkit for adults and peers who work with youth;
- continued support for mental health and suicide prevention public awareness campaigns;
- support to the University of Saskatchewan for a postsecondary suicide prevention and response project, and to Healthy Campus Saskatchewan's postsecondary community of practice network to disseminate this across the province; and
- support for a provincial safe medication disposal program, as overdose from prescription drugs is a common means of suicide.

Read Full News Release

"Like many of you, I was deeply saddened today to learn of the death of our Queen - the only monarch most of us have ever known - Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

"Her reign of over 70 years spanned an incredible period of history. She was Queen during the term of 12 Canadian Prime Ministers and 9 Saskatchewan Premiers. But even more enduring was the dedication, dignity and grace with which she served as Queen of Canada and the Commonwealth.

"Many of us have fond memories of Her Late Majesty's visits to our province - first as Princess Elizabeth in 1951 and then on five occasions as Queen - in 1959, 1973, 1978, 1987 and 2005.

"She visited many parts of our province, meeting with people from all walks of life, including continuing the special relationship between the Crown and Indigenous Peoples."

Scott Moe Premier of Saskatchewan

Read Full News Release

Statement from Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

"The world has lost a remarkable individual. Through a life devoted to duty, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II exemplified integrity, humility, inner strength and outward grace. She was a constant in a changing world. She respected tradition but embraced change.



"As Head of the Commonwealth, she encouraged unity. As Queen of Canada, she remarked often on the service of our citizens, our commitment to multiculturalism and our potential to influence the world.

"Her Majesty was very fond of Canada and Canadians and thought of our country as her home away from home. She was committed to Reconciliation and acknowledged the painful history that Indigenous peoples endured in residential schools in Canada, as well as the work that remains to heal and to continue to build an inclusive society.

"While we mourn her loss, we can also give thanks for her extraordinary contributions to Canada and the world."

Russ Mirasty Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

Ottawa Implements Livestock Tax Deferral Provision by Diego Flammini

Livestock producers in western Canada facing extreme weather conditions are receiving support from the federal government.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau announced on Aug. 30 the implementation of the *Livestock Tax Deferral* for an initial list of designated regions in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Regions are designated when "forage yields are less than 50% of the long-term average as a result of drought or flooding in a particular year." This provision provides flexibility to cattle producers who have had to sell part of their breeding herd because of extreme weather, said Tyler Fulton, president of Manitoba Beef Producers.

To defer income, the breeding herd must have been reduced by at least 15 per cent.

Read Full Article

Learn More

Resources

Saskatchewan Expands Eligibility for Loan Forgiveness for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technologists

The Government of Saskatchewan is expanding eligibility for the Saskatchewan Loan Forgiveness for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technologists program. Any Saskatchewan veterinary practice that offers veterinary services to livestock stakeholders from rural or remote communities is now eligible, which includes, but is not limited to, ambulatory service delivery. This expansion is in addition to designated communities previously announced in 2021, and the service threshold continues to be a minimum of 400 hours of services over a twelve-month period.

Saskatchewan's growing economy is fueling high demand for veterinary professionals working in our rural and remote communities.



This program is intended to attract veterinary professionals to work in rural areas by forgiving a portion of their Saskatchewan Student Loan debt for up to five years to a maximum of \$20,000.

Read Full News Release

Learn More



Farm Buildings and
Farm Residences in *The*Construction Codes
Act

The Construction Codes Act (the CC Act) replaced The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act as the legislation that governs the construction and occupancy of buildings in Saskatchewan, effective January 1, 2022.

Farm buildings remain exempt from construction standards. The CC Act

and *The Building Code Regulations* (the BC Regulations) provide definitions to help distinguish between exempt farm buildings and non-exempt buildings located on agricultural land for the purpose of applying construction standards.

Farm residences and other buildings where sleeping accommodation is provided on a regular or temporary/seasonal basis are not farm buildings and are not exempt from construction standards. They must comply with applicable provisions of the National Building Code of Canada adopted for use in Saskatchewan. Existing farm residences remain exempt unless renovations or additions were started after January 1, 2022.

Although farm buildings are exempt from construction standards under the CC Act, local authorities can choose, through their building bylaw, to

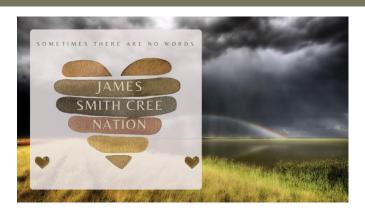
require farm buildings to comply with construction standards and to get building permits.

Before any construction begins, building owners are recommended to contact their local authority to discuss their project.

For more information, the applicable provisions of the CC Act, the BC Regulations and *The Agricultural Operations Act* are provided in the advisory guide linked below.

View Advisory Guide

#RuralMatters



Our hearts are with James Smith Cree Nation and the village of Weldon. #JamesSmithCreeNation #weldonSK #emergencyalert #staysafe

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Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities | 2301 Windsor Park Road, Regina, Regina, S4V 3A4 Canada

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Information

Reducing Red Tape for Oil Service Rigs

The governments of Saskatchewan and Alberta, along with industry stakeholders, have secured a regulation exemption from Ottawa that will allow oil service rigs to move freely between the two provinces.

On June 5, 2019, the premiers of Saskatchewan and Alberta signed a Memorandum of Understanding to help remove provincial barriers to the movement of service rigs.

Since then, they have been urging the federal government to exempt service rigs from regulations under the Motor Vehicle Transport Act that prevent vehicles and equipment from moving efficiently between job sites in the two provinces. Under the new Motor Vehicle Transport Act exemption, service rig convoys will not be required to complete daily logs or have a certified electronic logging device.

Service rigs will continue to have robust safety checks in place, such as the need to have valid permits, regular inspections and to comply with all Occupational Health and Safety requirements.

Quick facts

- Service rigs are large, heavy vehicles with mounted derricks that are used to service and maintain oil wells.
- The two provinces brought forward a joint application to Transport Canada for a class exemption for interprovincial service rig carriers from provisions of the federal Motor Vehicle Transport Act in order to recognize the harmonized approach between Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The exemption will apply in the provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Read Full News Release

Use of Pleasure Craft as Commercial

Passenger Vessels

In recent years, the emergence of online platforms and mobile applications which allow pleasure craft owners to list their vessels for rent, have made it easier for vessel owners to turn their underutilized assets into revenue generators. However, as with short-term property rental and ride sharing services (e.g., Airbnb, Uber, etc.), not all operators of these new small businesses are familiar with the laws and regulations governing them, in particular when the boat is rented with captain and crew.

Safety is Transport Canada's main priority. Transport Canada has no doubt that the safety of the vessels operated by users of these platforms, and the people on board them, is also considered a high importance by the operators of these services. However, to ensure all vessels being used through these sites are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations appropriate for their usage, Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security is undertaking enhanced outreach to help all owners and operators of these vessels become, or remain, safe and fully compliant with Canadian laws and regulations.

Transport Canada's initial review of the vessels listed on these online platforms available to rent in Canada showed that while most are licensed as pleasure craft, many appear to be operating as commercial passenger vessels instead. As you are aware, the regulations, safety requirements and liability significantly differ from pleasure craft to commercial passenger vessel operations.

This document outlines key regulatory differences between these vessel types. Transport Canada has developed the **Safe Boating Guide** to assist owners and operators remain in compliance with applicable regulations and to provide safe operating guidelines for vessels that are rented and operated as pleasure craft. Transport Canada has also developed two additional guidance instruments that would be helpful to the operators of vessels which are carrying passengers for hire.

These instruments are as follows:

- The Small Commercial Vessel Safety Guide TP 14070 E
- The Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP)

Furthermore, Transport Canada has included a *website link* which will provide additional information to anyone using these online platforms in Canada.

This information will help raise awareness and understanding of responsibilities when Canadians are choosing to rent a vessel.

For more information, please contact Stephen Sherburne, OBS Manager, at (780) 246-1499, or *stephen.sherburne@tc.gc.ca*.

Regulatory Differences and Defintions

Safe Boating Guide

Learn More

Government Invests \$5.4 Million for Increased Wages for Early Childhood Educators

The Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada are investing \$5.4 million to provide up to \$2 an hour increase for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs). This is in recognition of the important services they provide in supporting families who require child care. The investment will assist child care centres in providing improved wages in the recruitment and retention of ECEs.

This Wage Enhancement Grant will be funded through the Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, which also supports future ECEs with free post-secondary training, professional development opportunities and many other programs. These all align with the joint federal and provincial commitment to improving quality in the early learning and child care sector and attracting, retaining and growing a strong and skilled workforce of Early Childhood Educators.

The investment in wage increases help address the compensation necessities for ECEs. This increase is a step toward the development of the wage grid for ECEs, which the Government of Saskatchewan will implement by the end of 2022-23. Saskatchewan child care centres can expect to receive more information on the ECE wage increase during the last week of September.

Providing grants for Early Childhood Educators is just one part of a larger initiative by the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada to implement a Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care System. The Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, signed just over a year ago, provides a federal investment of nearly \$1.1 billion over five years for regulated early learning and child care programs and services for children under the age of six in Saskatchewan. With on average 70 per cent child care fee reductions already announced in the province, the goal is to bring down average fees for regulated child care to \$10-a-day by the end of March 2026.

> Read Full News Release

Rare Earth Summit Launches Saskatchewan as Continental Hub for Critical Rare Earths Processing

Saskatchewan's leadership in rare earth elements (REE) production, research and education will debut today in Saskatoon as private and public sector collaborate to showcase three significant initiatives that are attracting international attention.

The Rare Earth Summit will focus on sites in the city's north industrial end, where Vital Metals Ltd. will unveil Phase One of its Rare Earth Extraction Facility, alongside the Saskatchewan Research Council's (SRC) \$55 million vertically integrated Rare Earth Processing Facility that will include processing, separation

and metals stages - a first-of-its-kind in North America. Industry leaders from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's *Critical Minerals Council* will meet in-person to discuss growing and securing ethically sourced responsible supply chains of critical minerals.

Saskatchewan, with its excellent workforce, environmental protection, intermodal transportation and energy infrastructure, respected education facilities and an established mineral processing culture and infrastructure and low cost of living make it an ideal location to create a centre of REE excellence within North American and international reach. Initially, the province will see an estimated 100+ new jobs created between the Vital and SRC projects.

Global industries ranging from electric vehicles, wind turbines, energy efficient air conditioners and elevators, mobile phones, LEDs, to medical, defense and communications are increasingly reliant on reliable, affordable and responsibly sourced rare earths that are essential to today's fast-growing technologies. Canada has declared that securing supply chains of REEs, along with 30 other critical minerals is in the national interest.

Read Full News Release

Province Accepting Water, Wastewater and Other Green Infrastructure Project Applications Until November 29

[On September 20, 2022], Saskatchewan communities and eligible organizations may start submitting funding applications for proposed water, wastewater and other projects under the last intake in the province for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

Water and wastewater projects can include treatment plants, sewage lagoons or similar facilities. Other projects include infrastructure that can adapt, resist or mitigate natural disasters and climate change.

Eligible recipients that can apply include: municipalities; First Nations and Métis communities



These applications will be managed by the Ministry of Government Relations. The provincial government will recommend projects to the Government of Canada for final approval.

This new intake will remain open until noon, Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

and related governing bodies; public-sector bodies; not-for-profit organizations; and for-profit organizations, provided they are working with Indigenous entities and/or municipalities.

The full eligibility requirements and the online application process are available at www.saskatchewan.ca/ICIP.

Under ICIP, the Government of Saskatchewan secured more than \$900 million in federal funding to support all types of eligible infrastructure projects in the province.

Read Full News Release

Minimum Wage Increasing to \$13

Employers and workers in Saskatchewan are reminded that the province's minimum wage will be \$13 an hour effective October 1, 2022.

In May of this year the province announced the increase, which marked a departure from the indexation formula that had been used to calculate changes.

At the same time, it was announced the minimum would increase to \$14 on October 1, 2023, and \$15 on October 1, 2024.

Read Full News Release

Animal Health Order Issued in Saskatchewan After Confirmed Avian Influenza in Poultry

The Ministry of Agriculture's Chief Veterinary Officer has issued an Animal Health Order on September 21, 2022, limiting the transport and comingling of poultry after several cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza were confirmed in Saskatchewan.

The health order will be in place until October 21, 2022, at which time it will be reviewed. The order 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.

Saskatchewan will continue to work with the CFIA, and the poultry industry to support a coordinated and effective response.

Avian influenza (AI) is a federally reportable disease under the Health of Animals Act. This virus, commonly known as "bird flu," affects foodproducing birds including chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, and quails, as well as pet and wild birds. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is leading the disease response in Saskatchewan and other provinces experiencing outbreaks in poultry.

All detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Canada are reported on the *CFIA website*. Further information on the animal health order and avian influenza in poultry is also available on the *ministry of agriculture website*.

The goal of this Animal Health Order is to limit the spread of this virus to new flocks. Producers are reminded to remain vigilant and contact the proper authorities should they have any concerns regarding the health of their flocks.

Read Full News Release

Resources

SGI's Provincial Traffic Safety Grant Program



SARM has been in contact with SGI regarding the availability of grants that are available to improve traffic safety within RMs. SGI offers a Provincial Traffic Safety Fund Grant program. Its goal is to stimulate and support local, collaborative action that will increase traffic safety awareness. The deadline for submissions for the fall intake is September 30th. An additional opportunity to apply for the grant will be made available in January.

If you are interested in additional information regarding the grant, please *click here* and you will see a PDF outlining the grant guidelines and additional information on how to apply for the grant.

We at SARM encourage our members to look at the program and, even if the September deadline is too soon, consider participating, if not this fall, early next year as this program is a great initiative by SGI to try and reduce traffic accidents and make our roadways safer.

If you have any questions, please contact Colin Warnecke, Manager of Risk Management, at *cwarnecke@sarm.ca*.

Learn More



WSA's Introductory Qualified Persons Training Course

The Water Security Agency is partnering with Southeast College, to provide a

dynamic and informational Introductory Qualified Persons Training course. This free course consists of five instructor-led online sessions. This course offers the introductory concepts that are important to ensure QPs have the appropriate skills and knowledge necessary to assist producers with completing Drainage Applications. Learners will learn about climate change, the role of adaptation in the design and construction of drainage works to manage risks and impacts, and how science-based information and tools can be used in the design and adaptation of agriculture water management projects.

The next online Introductory QP Training Course will start next on October 4, 2022, and it will consist of five virtual online sessions that are 3 hours in length. So, the sessions start on Tuesday October 4th and finish on Thursday October 13th and are scheduled between 9am and 12pm for each of the five sessions.

If you are interested in attending please go to Southeast College's website to register:

Register Now

Tips to register: scroll to the bottom of the webpage and click on the dates you want to register for, this will result in the date being underlined, then go back to the top of the webpage and click on the green "Register" button on the top right of the webpage and then follow the instructions.

If you have any questions about the online Introductory QP Training Course or are having difficulties registering for the course, please contact Heather Davies (*Heather.Davies@wsask.ca*).

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