

The weekly **Policy Bulletin**



February 7, 2023

Note: certain email platforms distort the Weekly Policy Bulletin formatting. It is viewed best as a webpage through your internet browser.

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Reminders

2023 SARM Elections- President, Vice President, Division 2,4,6

The 2023 SARM Annual Convention will have elections for President, Vice President, and Division Director positions in Division 2, 4, 6.

All elected positions are two-year terms. The two-year terms of office for the six Directors are staggered, with the two-year term for the Directors of Divisions 1, 3 and 5 from the election at the annual convention in an even year and continuing until the completion of the election for those positions at the annual convention two years henceforth. The two-year terms for the Directors of Divisions 2, 4 and 6 are from the election at the annual convention in an odd year and continuing until the completion of the election for those positions at the annual convention two years henceforth.

Pursuant to the SARM bylaws, the deadline for nominations for the 2023 elections is **5:00 PM, Thursday, February 16th, 2023**. The 2023 SARM Annual Convention will have elections on **Thursday, March 16th, 2023**.

Nominations can be submitted by email to jmeyer@sarm.ca. The candidate's acceptance form must be filed by the same deadlines in the same manner.

Once a nomination form has been submitted via email you must contact the SARM Office at 306.757.3577 to ensure the nomination form has been received.

Nomination and Acceptance Form

SGL Policy Update - Fire Suppression & Vehicle Extrication Services

Please find some of the details listed below regarding SGL's 2023 Fire Suppression & Vehicle Extrication Services policy update, commencing **January 1, 2023**:

- SGI will be the first payer in all situations where fire suppression and rescue/extrication service providers attend to an accident scene within the province.
- Fire departments can submit their invoice for services provided as a result of an accident involving a motor vehicle or for a loss to a motor vehicle (i.e. fire) within the province along with the SGI VEHICLE FIRE AND ACCIDENT CLAIM FORM to NorthFireInvoices@sgi.sk.ca or SouthFireInvoices@sgi.sk.ca.
- A motor vehicle is defined as a vehicle that is required to be licensed to be operated on a public highway within the province.
- Effective January 1, 2023, SGI will pay for services at the rate of \$1,036.34 per hour pro rated, by the minute, after the first hour when fire suppression or vehicle extrication services were provided as a result of a motor vehicle accident or loss to the motor vehicle within the province. (This rate includes all services performed, all personnel dispatched and all vehicles/equipment required at the scene.)
- The rate will also be paid in the following situations even though no fire suppression or vehicle extrication services were performed:
 - (1) fire department responds to a motor vehicle accident where hazardous materials were being transported and the fire department has been requested to remain at the scene until the hazardous materials have been recovered
 - (2) fire department responds to a serious motor vehicle accident which resulted in a fatality or fatalities
- The rate for service will be adjusted effective January 1st of each year by the Consumer Price Index for the province for the previous year.

For the full policy update, please click the link below.

[SGI Policy Update](#)

[Fire / Accident Claim Form](#)

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.

[Learn More](#)



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 spring intake is **March 31st**.

We at SARM encourage our members to look at the program and, even if the March deadline is too soon, consider participating, if not this spring, later this year during the fall intake 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

Information

Regina Emergency Medical Services Adding More Paramedics

New paramedic positions are being added to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Regina to help meet the increasing needs of area residents. A total of 24.5 full-time equivalent paramedic positions will be phased in over the next three months.

EMS call volumes in Regina increased by over 14 per cent from 2020-21 to 2021-22, with almost 27,000 calls answered in 2020-21 and nearly 31,000 calls in 2021-22.

The new paramedic positions will help to staff two additional ambulances in Regina along with two additional smaller paramedic response units.

A paramedic response unit has one advanced care paramedic who can help primary care paramedics on more complex calls or can arrive at an emergency before the ambulance and begin providing care immediately until the ambulance arrives.

Two new EMS coordinators will also be hired to support paramedics throughout the province with clinical education, training and quality assurance.

The additional positions will be funded through the existing EMS budget within the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) for a total cost of \$2.4 million annually.

The SHA and the provincial government are working together to explore opportunities for additional recruitment and retention initiatives, and increased training access for paramedics. A major expansion in post-secondary training seats for health care programs was announced yesterday, which includes an increase from 152 to 252 Primary Care Paramedic seats at the Saskatchewan Polytechnic and Regional Colleges.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Saskatchewan Significantly Expanding Opportunities for Health Care Training

Saskatchewan is dramatically increasing educational opportunities for Saskatchewan students and young adults interested in health careers. An immediate initial investment of more than \$5.5 million will help create over 550 new post-secondary training seats across 18 health care training programs.

Expanding health training programs is one of four pillars in the province's **Health Human Resources Action Plan**. This commitment will increase training capacity at the province's post-secondary institutions and reserve additional training seats for Saskatchewan students in highly specialized programs in other provinces.

Training programs that will expand beginning in fall 2023 include Medical Laboratory Assistant, Continuing Care Assistant, Primary Care Paramedic,

Licensed Practical Nurse, Pharmacy Technician, Clinical Psychologist, Physical Therapist and Mental Health and Addictions Counsellor.

Health Human Resources Action Plan

Expanding Health Care Training Opportunities

Saskatchewan is adding over **550 new post-secondary training seats** across **18 health care programs**.

saskatchewan.ca/hhr-train



Post-secondary institutions across the province - technical schools, regional colleges, Indigenous institutions and universities - will support the expansion so that students can study and work closer to home. This latest expansion builds on a previous investment in 2022-23 to add 150 nursing seats in Saskatchewan's registered nursing, registered psychiatric nursing, and nurse practitioner programs.

Saskatchewan students can access a variety of financial aid options to help support their educational journeys, including loans, grants, bursaries and scholarships. The Graduate Retention Program also provides up to \$20,000 in tax credits for those who stay in the province after graduation.

To learn more about Saskatchewan's multi-faceted approach to supporting health human resources and to find information on health care opportunities, visit [**Saskatchewan.ca/HHR**](https://Saskatchewan.ca/HHR).

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources



In partnership with your employer, Homeweb is introducing the Homewood Pathfinder Suite. Homewood Pathfinder is designed to enhance Homeweb - your current online

mental health and wellness portal. It will assess the reason for accessing the program, determine how serious your concern is, your level of risk and your care preferences and offer you the right Employee Assistance Program service or resource at the right time. Where clinically appropriate you are able to book services or connect with a professional immediately, and through Pathfinder you can also manage service scheduling.

SARM members can sign up today and start using Homewood Pathfinder!

YOUR CUSTOMER ACCOUNT NAME IS Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)

YOUR INVITATION CODE IS SAR995

To register a new account

1. Visit: Homeweb.ca or [click here](#)
2. Click '**Sign Up**' to create an account and enter your invitation code
3. Enter your name, preferred email address and a few other pieces of information to create your profile
4. A key component of Pathfinder, Homewood PulseCheck will ask for a few additional details including how you're feeling and your primary area of interest or concern

Sign Up



Farmers are reported to experience mental illness at higher rates than the general population and rural residents who do not farm and are less likely than non-farmers to seek help for their mental health.

In The Know is a 5-hour training interactive session with slides, discussion, handouts, visual aids, and the use of scenarios. The use of pre and post surveys for the training allows the program to stay current and address any barriers users may experience before, during, and after training. Participants will be able to:

- Identify the signs and symptoms of those in distress
- Have the confidence to start a conversation about mental health
- Learn to support other farmers and yourself at this mental health literacy program for farmers and the agricultural community

The workshop is delivered by a facilitator and cofacilitator both with agricultural background so participants do not need to explain their specific challenges before asking questions and sharing experiences

Dates: February 23, 2023 & March 9, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CST

To register, please email shs954@mail.usask.ca.

[Register Now](#)



Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) Program

The Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) Program is launching its second scheduled intake and is now accepting applications through the following intake streams:

Scheduled

Eligible applicants with large projects to retrofit existing community buildings or projects to build new community buildings with total eligible costs ranging from \$3 million to \$25 million can apply now **until February 28, 2023, 15:00 ET.**

Continuous

The GICB Program continues to accept applications from eligible applicants for small and medium sized projects to retrofit existing community buildings ranging in total eligible cost from \$100,000 to \$3 million **until February 28, 2023, 15:00 ET.**

1.) Read the Applicant Guide

For detailed information on the Program, including applicant and project eligibility requirements

If you are an eligible applicant with an eligible project, please Register.

[Applicant Guide](#)

2.) Register to create an account

This will enable you to login to the online application portal.

If you already have an account, please use your existing credentials to access the application portal. If you need to reset your password, please contact us at gicbp-pbcvi@infc.gc.ca.

[Register](#)

Once registered, you will receive an email within 2-3 business days providing the login information to access the application portal. If you have not received your login information within this time, please contact gicbp-pbcvi@infc.gc.ca.

3.) Apply to GICB

Login to the application portal using the link and account information provided by email

If you have any questions about the online portal, please reach out to the GICB Program team at gicbp-pbcvi@infc.gc.ca.

[Learn More](#)

after you registered.

[Apply](#)

Note: You are not required to complete the application in one session and your application can be saved as many times as necessary prior to submission.



Roughriders Launch Grey Cup Festival Legacy Grant Program

On the heels of an incredible Grey Cup Festival and exciting Grey Cup game, the Saskatchewan Roughriders are pleased to launch the **Grey Cup Festival Legacy Grant Program**.

The grant program will help establish and support projects and programs across the province of Saskatchewan in the areas of youth, healthy lifestyles and mental health.

Saskatchewan municipalities, Indigenous communities and registered charitable organizations are all invited to apply for funding, with up to \$50,000 available per grant.

Full grant criteria and the **grant application** can be found at Riderville.com. The application deadline is **February 27, 2023**.

[Read Full NR](#)

[Learn More / Apply](#)

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[View Our Programs](#)

[View Our Resources](#)



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Feedback

Consultations on Proposed Amendments to The Building Code Regulations, The Energy Code Regulations and The Plumbing Code Regulations

The Ministry of Government Relations is proposing amendments to the three regulations made pursuant to *The Construction Codes*, specifically *The Building Code Regulations*, *The Energy Code Regulations* and *The Plumbing Code Regulations*. Please find below a summary provided by Mr. Kevin Kehler, Director of Technical Safety Policy, explaining the proposed changes:

(NBC), the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings (NECB) and the National Plumbing Code of Canada (NPC) on January 1, 2024. This date was chosen to limit disruptions during the busy summer construction season and to ensure compliance with Saskatchewan's commitment under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement to adopt the 2020 editions of the construction codes within 24 months of their publication.

A detailed technical explanation of the changes between the 2015 and the 2020 editions for all three codes can be found at the following website: ccbfcccccpi.ca/en/significant-technical-changes-to-2020-codes.

In addition to the adoption of the 2020 editions of the construction codes, amendments have been proposed to address Saskatchewan-specific concerns. This includes:

- adding several new definitions and revising a number of existing definitions to provide clarity and a more common understanding;*
- identifying the energy efficiency tiers and climate zone ratings listed in the NBC and NECB that will apply in Saskatchewan;*
- requiring inspections by engineers or architects of certain types of large buildings;*
- allowing child care centers to be classified as Group A, Division 2 assembly occupancies to harmonize the application of codes;*
- clarifying the requirements for carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in existing buildings constructed between 1988 and 2009; and*
- allowing homeowners to obtain a permit from their relevant local authority for plumbing work on their own primary residences.*

With respect to energy efficiency standards, stakeholders are also being asked to provide comments on the readiness of industry, local authorities and the supply chain to comply with the new requirements detailed in the NECB and Section 9.36. of the NBC. Specifically, this includes impact the proposed tiers of energy efficiency will have on new construction and the ability of industry to satisfy these requirements.

SARM asks that the RMs review the side-by-sides which outline the proposed wording of the amendments and provide any comment, concerns or questions to Mrs. Alicia Bay or Ms. Deanna Nichols **no later than March 24, 2023.**

Alicia Bay, Policy Analyst

P: (306) 761-3742

E: abay@sarm.ca

Building Code Regulations

Deanna Nichols, Policy

Administrator

P: (306) 761-3947

E: dnichols@sarm.ca

Energy Code Regulations

Plumbing Code Regulations

Information

2023 Preliminary Runoff Report

[On February 8, 2023], the Water Security Agency (WSA) released the preliminary spring runoff outlook for 2023 as it prepares its initial Spring Runoff Report for March 2023. The information gathered in this report is based on conditions as they were on February 1, 2023.



The report shows most of southern Saskatchewan with below normal to near normal snowmelt runoff potential. Well below normal runoff is expected in the Maple Creek area where mid-winter melts have depleted the snowpack. South of the Cypress Hills and in the southeast, near normal snowmelt runoff is expected. Central areas of the province and the northwest are also expected to experience near normal snowmelt runoff. With a below normal snowpack, areas in the far northeast are expected to see a below normal snowmelt runoff.

While much of southern Saskatchewan has a snowpack that is thought to be near to above normal, dry conditions at freeze-up, particularly over areas west of Swift Current and Outlook over to the Alberta Border, are expected to reduce runoff yields. This may result in minimal replenishment of surface water supplies within this area and potentially some shortages later in 2023. At this time, the risk of snowmelt related flooding in the province is low.

Runoff potential is determined based on several factors including the conditions at freeze-up, the snowfall received to date and potential expected further precipitation between now and spring melt.

The melt rate is expected to have a significant impact on runoff yields, particularly within the southwest and west central areas of the province. With depleted subsoil moisture, a slow melt will likely result in the bulk of the snowpack recharging the soil column. A rapid melt is likely needed to result in an improvement to surface water supplies. The current snowpack is likely insufficient to satisfy both. Without additional snowfall, surface water supply issues are likely to occur in southwestern Saskatchewan in 2023.

The spring runoff outlook could change as there we could have a further 10 weeks of

winter. The first spring runoff forecast will be issued in early March.

[Read Full News Release](#)

[2023 Preliminary Runoff
Outlook Report](#)

Agriculture Minister's Trade Mission to UAE and India to Advance Agricultural Opportunities in Key Markets

Agriculture Minister David Marit will be leading a delegation to India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for a trade mission and to attend the Pulses Conclave in Mumbai, India and the Gulfood Exhibition in Dubai, UAE.

The mission aims to help Saskatchewan gain a better understanding of international stakeholders' current and future needs. The mission also provides an opportunity to learn about any challenges faced by stakeholders and how the Government of Saskatchewan can provide support. Minister Marit will promote the sustainability of Saskatchewan's crop production during the mission as well as strengthen trade, research and investment ties with some of Saskatchewan's long-standing partners. Additionally, the mission will help companies and industry organizations within the province expand their relationships with stakeholders.

In 2022, Saskatchewan was the United Arab Emirates' and India's largest supplier of lentils, accounting for 70 per cent and 55 per cent of the country's imports, respectively.

Saskatchewan has a network of nine international trade offices, two of which are in India and the United Arab Emirates. The offices are working to grow Saskatchewan's exports, attract investment into the province and strengthen relationships with our partners in these markets.

Minister Marit will begin his trip in Mumbai for the opening of the Pulses Conclave, then travel to Dubai. During the mission, he will meet with the Consul Generals of Canada to UAE and India, attend the Gulfood 2023 trade show in UAE and meet various officials and industry experts from industry associations and oilseed, wheat, pulse and ingredient companies.

Saskatchewan's delegation departs for Mumbai on February 13 and returns on February 22.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Third Consecutive Year of Record Agricultural Exports for Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's agriculture industry has posted a third consecutive year of record agri-food exports, with a total value of \$18.4 billion for 2022.

The leading agri-food export commodities in 2022 were canola oil, non-durum wheat, canola seed, lentils, durum and dry peas. The top five international market destinations were the United States, China, Japan, Mexico and Algeria.



In addition to Saskatchewan's primary production, higher-value processed products are a key contributor to the province's exports. With canola oil as Saskatchewan's top agri-food export and canola meal the seventh-leading, products like these provide an opportunity to reach the 2030 Growth Plan target of increasing agriculture value-added revenue to \$10 billion.

Saskatchewan's agri-food exports are the second highest in Canada, behind Ontario which exported \$23.8 billion in 2022. Increases in agriculture exports continue to contribute to Saskatchewan's strong economic growth, as merchandise exports saw a 23.8 per cent increase in December 2022 compared to December 2021; this was the second highest increase among provinces, seasonally adjusted. Total merchandise exports for 2022 were valued at more than \$52 billion, an increase of 41.7 per cent since 2021.

Saskatchewan's total exports have grown by more than \$20 billion since 2012.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources

The Future of the Indigenous Economy

February 16, 2023 | 3:00-4:30 pm CDT; Reception to follow | In person at University of Regina & Livestream

Building from the core of self-determination, what capacity building, institutional innovation, governance frameworks, and financing arrangements can best enable the success of the Indigenous economy?



Ken Coates (moderator)



Tabatha Bull



Chief Cadmus Delorme

On February 16, 2023, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and the Max Bell Foundation are putting on the Future of the Indigenous Economy in Regina (or online). Ensure you register, if you would like to hear from features Ken Coates, Cadmus Delorme, and Tabatha Bull. Register for free below.

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2023

Time: 3-4:30 p.m. CDT

Location: In person at the University of Regina or Virtual

[Learn More / Register](#)

Building and Technical Standards Branch: Legislative Framework Training (LFT) - Revised 2022

In an effort to provide ongoing education and training, the Building and Technical Standards Branch is pleased to deliver **Legislative Framework Training (LFT) - Revised 2022**. This workshop has been formatted in video and is available as on-demand virtual training to enhance accessibility for continuing education with construction standards.

- The Administrative Requirements for use with the National Building Code of Canada, 1985
- *The Construction Codes Act*
- *The Building Code Regulations*
- *The Energy Code Regulations*
- Building Bylaw and Enforcement Guide c/w Model Building Bylaw
- Alternative Solutions

A certificate for 16 hours will be issued upon completion of the virtual training for professional development records including Building Official License Training (BOLT). For individuals looking to

The intent of this training is to provide building officials with a better understanding of the legislation and regulations for successful application of the National Building Code of Canada within Saskatchewan. Completion of this training, including successful completion of the examination associated to this training, is a requirement for all new and existing building officials dependent on the conditions of their building official license.

Legislative Framework Training will examine the provisions and application of the following documents:

- NBC 2015, Division A, Part 2 - Objectives
- NBC 2015, Division A, Part 3 - Functional Statements
- NBC 2015, Division C - Administrative Provisions

write the LFT exam, proof of completion for the virtual training is required prior to taking the examination.

Who should take these webinars?

- Building Officials
- Designers
- Architects
- Engineers
- Code Consultants
- Construction industry

Below is the registration link. Please register as required to gain access to this presentation from the Building and Technical Standards Branch. Also, it is recommended to use a browser such as Google Chrome and Safari for the best experience with viewing in the Thinkific platform.

[Learn More / Register](#)



Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund Webinars

Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund is accepting applications until **July 19, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. (EDT)**.

Eligible projects include new construction of public infrastructure and/or modification or reinforcement of existing public infrastructure, including natural infrastructure, that prevent, mitigate or protect against the impacts of climate change, disasters triggered by natural hazards, and extreme weather.

Join one of Infrastructure Canada's webinars for guidance on preparing a strong DMAF application. Infrastructure Canada's will provide an overview of the program, its requirements and advice to help applicants navigate the application process.

If you are interested in attending one of the webinars, please visit Infrastructure Canada's [webpage](#) to register. You can also consult the [applicant guide](#) for more information.

[Learn More / Register](#)

Water Security Agency Helping Producers Plan Sustainable Agricultural Water Management Projects



The Water Security Agency (WSA) is offering free workshops called

AgH2Onward to introduce farmers and ranchers to the Agricultural Water Management Strategy in Saskatchewan. The workshops explore the process and benefits of obtaining drainage approvals and techniques to best manage water on their land.

These free half-day workshops are being offered online and in-person until April 2023. Scheduled in-person workshops will begin in March.

The course covers various types of water management practices such as surface ditches, tile drainage and wetland consolidation, completing a network project with neighbouring landowners, and using a qualified person to assist landowners through the process.

The Agricultural Water Management Strategy is a made-in-Saskatchewan approach that supports economic growth, thriving communities and resilient watersheds. It was implemented in 2015 to provide support and opportunities for farmers and ranchers to effectively manage excess water on agricultural land and safeguard against downstream flooding, water quality and environmental impacts.

Producers can learn more and register at agh2onward.ca. WSA will also host in-person or online workshops for organizations, groups or communities upon request.

For more information about these workshops, please contact: Julie Mackenzie, AgH2Oward Coordinator, 306-264-7747 or agh2onward@gmail.com.

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- *identifying the energy efficiency tiers and climate zone ratings listed in the NBC and NECB that will apply in Saskatchewan;*
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SARM asks that the RMs review the side-by-sides which outline the proposed wording of the amendments and provide any comment, concerns or questions to Mrs. Alicia Bay or Ms. Deanna Nichols **no later than March 24, 2023.**

Alicia Bay, Policy Analyst

P: (306) 761-3742

E: abay@sarm.ca

Building Code Regulations

Deanna Nichols, Policy

Administrator

P: (306) 761-3947

E: dnichols@sarm.ca

Energy Code Regulations

Plumbing Code Regulations



In partnership with your employer, Homeweb is introducing the Homewood Pathfinder Suite. Homewood Pathfinder is designed to enhance Homeweb - your current online mental health and wellness portal. It will assess the reason for accessing the program, determine how serious your concern is, your level of risk and your care preferences and offer you the right Employee Assistance Program service or resource at the right time. Where clinically appropriate you are able to book services or connect with a professional immediately, and through Pathfinder you can also manage service scheduling.

This resource is only available to people who have LTD benefits and elected/appointed officials.

YOUR CUSTOMER ACCOUNT NAME IS Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM)

YOUR INVITATION CODE IS SAR995

To register a new account

1. Visit: [Homeweb.ca](https://homeweb.ca) or [click here](#)
2. Click '**Sign Up**' to create an account and enter your invitation code
3. Enter your name, preferred email address and a few other pieces of information to create your profile
4. A key component of Pathfinder, Homewood PulseCheck will ask for a few additional details including how you're feeling and your primary area of interest or concern

Sign Up



Farmers are reported to experience mental illness at higher rates than the general population and rural residents who do not farm and are less likely than non-farmers to seek help for their mental health.

In The Know is a 5-hour training interactive session with slides, discussion, handouts, visual aids, and the use of scenarios. The use of pre and post surveys for the training allows the program to stay current and address any barriers users may experience before, during, and after training. Participants will be able to:

- Identify the signs and symptoms of those in distress
- Have the confidence to start a conversation about mental health
- Learn to support other farmers and yourself at this mental health literacy program for farmers and the agricultural community

The workshop is delivered by a facilitator and cofacilitator both with agricultural background so participants do not need to explain their specific challenges before asking questions and sharing experiences

Dates: February 23, 2023 & March 9, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CST

To register, please email shs954@mail.usask.ca.

[Register Now](#)



Roughriders Launch Grey Cup Festival Legacy Grant Program

On the heels of an incredible Grey Cup Festival and exciting Grey Cup game, the Saskatchewan Roughriders are pleased to launch the **Grey Cup Festival Legacy**

Grant Program.

The grant program will help establish and support projects and programs across the province of Saskatchewan in the areas of youth, healthy lifestyles and mental health.

Saskatchewan municipalities, Indigenous communities and registered charitable organizations are all invited to apply for funding, with up to \$50,000 available per grant.

Full grant criteria and the **grant application** can be found at **Riderville.com**. The application deadline is **February 27, 2023**.

[Read Full NR](#)

[Learn More / Apply](#)



Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) Program

The Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) Program is launching its second scheduled intake and is now accepting applications through the following intake streams:

Scheduled

Eligible applicants with large projects to retrofit existing community buildings or projects to build new community buildings with total eligible costs ranging from \$3 million to \$25 million can apply now **until February 28, 2023, 15:00 ET**.

Continuous

The GICB Program continues to accept applications from eligible applicants for small and medium sized projects to retrofit existing community buildings ranging in total eligible cost from \$100,000 to \$3 million **until February 28, 2023, 15:00 ET**.

If you have any questions about the online portal, please reach out to the GICB Program team at **gicbp-pbcvi@info.gc.ca**.

[Learn More](#)

1.) Read the Applicant Guide

For detailed information on the Program, including applicant and project eligibility requirements

If you are an eligible applicant with an eligible project, please Register.

[Applicant Guide](#)

2.) Register to create an account

This will enable you to login to the online application portal.

If you already have an account, please use your existing credentials to access the application portal. If you need to reset your password, please contact us at **gicbp-pbcvi@info.gc.ca**.

[Register](#)

Once registered, you will receive an email within 2-3 business days providing the login information to access the application portal. If you have not received your login information within this time, please contact **gicbp-pbcvi@info.gc.ca**.

3.) Apply to GICB

Login to the application portal using the link and account information provided by email after you registered.

[Apply](#)

Note: You are not required to complete the application in one session and your application can be saved as many times as necessary prior to submission.

Information

2023 Annual Convention Resolutions

The SARM Resolutions Committee met over the last number of weeks to review the resolutions submitted to this annual convention and to provide guidance to make improvements to the resolution process.

The committee consists of the following individuals that represent each Division in the SARM membership:

Resolution Committee Members

Chair	VP Bill Huber	RM of Lipton No. 217
Division 1	Aaron Keisig	RM of Tullymet No. 216
Division 2	Cody Jordison	RM of Lumsden No. 189
Division 3	Darren Steinley	RM of Excelsior No. 166
Division 4	Norm Hall	RM of Elfros No. 307
Division 5	Wendy Trask	RM of Corman Park No. 344
Division 6	Leslie Clark	RM of Parkdale No. 498

You will notice two resolution documents linked below. One document consists of only the resolutions and the other includes the resolutions submitted with background.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. **The submitted background is what each sponsor has provided.**
2. **Please share with your council prior to the convention.**

The resolutions for convention will also be available to delegates as part of our SARM Convention App and printed in the SARM Convention Guide.

**Resolutions w/
Background**

**Resolutions w/o
Background**

SARM Elections 2023

As the nomination period for President, Vice President and Division Directors for Division 2,4, and 6 ended **February 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM**, SARM would like to announce the following:

The following individuals have been acclaimed to the SARM Board of Directors:

- President- Ray Orb- R.M. of Cupar- No. 218
- Vice President - Bill Huber- R.M. of Lipton No. 217
- Division 4 - Myron Kopec- R.M. of Buchanan No. 304
- Division 6 - Darwin Whitfield- R.M. of Oakdale No. 320

There will be an election at the SARM Annual Convention on **Thursday, March 16, 2023** in **Division Two**. The elections will take place at the Division 2 Division Meeting.

The candidates include:

- Norm Nordgulen - R.M. of Lake of the Rivers No. 72
- Tim Brodt - R.M. of Edenwold No. 158
- Cody Jordison - R.M. of Lumsden No. 189
- Susan Oakley-Paul - R.M. of Sherwood No. 159

Water Security Agency in the Field for Snow Surveys

The Water Security Agency (WSA) is once again preparing to undertake snow water equivalent sampling to help create a complete picture of the spring runoff potential for Saskatchewan.

WSA staff will be in the field at over a hundred sites later this month, carrying out snow surveys to help forecast the runoff potential, providing information on water supply and flood risks. Much of Saskatchewan's runoff comes from snowmelt, so these surveys are a key piece of information for forecasters.



WSA staff will collect a column of snowpack using a graduated tube, weigh the samples and then calculate the average snow-to-water equivalency for that area. Surveys from across the province contribute to the runoff potential map released every spring. Gathering and publishing this information helps municipalities, producers, industry and other users plan ahead.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources



NAMS+ Workshop

NAMS+ is offering an early bird special for their upcoming spring Asset Management workshops. Purchase your workshop seat before the end of February 2023 and receive 3 hours of support from NAMS+.

The workshop will run each Tuesday from April 4 - May 9, 2023 at 1:00-3:15pm CST. Each session is delivered by NAMS Canada AM experts.

Online workshops include:

- 6 x 2 1/4 hour sessions online
- Using your own data with ongoing technical support and content mentoring for course duration
- More time between sessions to advance work with your own data
- More effective use of your time with no travel time, no travel costs or out of office required
- Subscription and waived set up fees to the NAMS+ templates and modelling tools (\$1,500 value) until June 30, 2023

[Learn More / Register](#)



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



New Webinar on Advancing Climate Resilience in the Prairies

Please join **ClimateWest** on February 28th for a presentation and discussion about Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) **Map of Adaptation Actions**.

The event will feature Casey Clunas and Tazmin Holy, members of the **Canadian Centre for Climate Services**, as they present an adaptation example from a community, and discuss the role of the Map of Adaptation Actions in hosting a variety of adaptation projects from across Canada. The Map of Adaptation Actions is a collection of climate change adaptation examples, with the purpose of aiding decision-makers and others acting on climate change adaptation. This webinar will explore the Map's features and how it can be used to inspire adaptation

In 2013, the **Town of High River** experienced severe flooding, leading to the evacuation of 13,400 people and resulting in damage to 6,300 structures. High River responded to this destructive event, turning it into an opportunity to redesign a resilient downtown space. These adaptation actions have made High River one of the most resilient communities to flooding in Canada. We will hear from Mayor Craig Snodgrass on how these adaptation actions have made High River one of the most resilient communities to flooding in Canada.

Join us on February 28th from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. MST to take part in the discussion! Register [here](#).

English and French versions of the presentation materials will be made available after the webinar is concluded. Please don't hesitate to contact info@climategwest.ca for more information.

projects. The session will also focus on highlighting the actions from the Town of High River, Alberta.

[Register Now](#)

Pest Monitoring Program

In order for the Ministry of Agriculture to collect the data they need to produce pest forecasts, direct research and detect emerging problems. The Ministry of Agriculture needs to access fields. Your consent will allow them to monitor pests on your property and will contribute greatly to the health of the agriculture industry in Saskatchewan.

The Ministry of Agriculture is asking that rural property owners sign up to be part of upcoming pest monitoring work.

Sign-Up For The Pest Monitoring Program

We need your help as we plan for 2023 surveys in the coming months. Please scan the QR code or call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.



saskatchewan.ca/crops

Saskatchewan 

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



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

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Try email marketing for free today!

The weekly **Policy Bulletin**



February 28, 2023

Note: certain email platforms distort the Weekly Policy Bulletin formatting. It is viewed best as a webpage through your internet browser.

[{View as Webpage}](#)

Reminders

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saskatchewan.ca/crops

Saskatchewan 

[Sign Up](#)



IN THE KNOW
Mental Health Literacy WORKSHOP

Dates: February 23, 2023
March 9, 2023
Time: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

The banner features a photograph of a herd of cows in a snowy field under a hazy sky. The text is overlaid on the image, with the title in large white letters and the dates and time in a blue box.

Farmers are reported to experience mental illness at higher rates than the general population and rural residents who do not farm and are less likely than

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[Register Now](#)

Consultations on Proposed Amendments to The Building Code Regulations, The Energy Code Regulations and The Plumbing Code Regulations

The Ministry of Government Relations is proposing amendments to the three regulations made pursuant to *The Construction Codes*, specifically *The Building Code Regulations*, *The Energy Code Regulations* and *The Plumbing Code Regulations*. Please find below a summary provided by Mr. Kevin Kehler, Director of Technical Safety Policy, explaining the proposed changes:

(NBC), the National Energy Code of Canada for Buildings (NECB) and the National Plumbing Code of Canada (NPC) on January 1, 2024. This date was chosen to limit disruptions during the busy summer construction season and to ensure compliance with Saskatchewan's commitment under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement to adopt the 2020 editions of the construction codes within 24 months of their publication.

A detailed technical explanation of the changes between the 2015 and the 2020 editions for all three codes can be found at the following website: ccbfcccbpi.ca/en/significant-technical-changes-to-2020-codes.

In addition to the adoption of the 2020 editions of the construction codes, amendments have been proposed to address Saskatchewan-specific concerns. This includes:

- *adding several new definitions and revising a number of existing definitions to provide clarity and a more common understanding;*
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Building Code Regulations

Deanna Nichols, Policy Administrator

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E: dnichols@sarm.ca

Energy Code Regulations

Plumbing Code Regulations

Information

Saskatchewan Experiencing Positive Results Generated by Competitive Health Human Resource Initiatives

Saskatchewan continues to take bold actions to advance its ambitious Health Human Resources (HHR) Action Plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain health care professionals.

The province recently announced a significant expansion in educational opportunities for Saskatchewan students and young adults interested in health careers. An initial investment of more than \$5.5 million will create over 550 new post-secondary training seats across 18 health care training programs.

Progress continues on recruitment of health care professionals from the Philippines, with Registered Nurses (RNs) who received conditional offers now moving through the RN Pathway which includes language, bridging education and licensing. Fifteen RNs are in the bridging program, with the next intake planned for early March. Four Continuing Care Assistants have arrived and are working in Moose Jaw (one), Swift Current (one) and Eastend (two). Two Medical Laboratory Assistants recently arrived and will begin working in Regina in early March.



The Ministry of Health's Final Clinical Placement Bursary has seen the highest uptake in years and exceeded this year's goals, with 145 bursaries for over \$230,000 approved to date in 2022-23. This bursary is offered to Saskatchewan students in eligible health disciplines to support them with their final clinical placement requirements. Applications remain open until March 1, 2023 for further candidates.

The Rural and Remote Recruitment Incentive of up to \$50,000 for a three-year return-of-service agreement continues to accept applications. Since launching last fall, the program has seen success with a total of 56 incentive packages approved to date in a variety of professions and locations. These one-time incentive packages are available in 52 Saskatchewan communities for nine high priority health professions.

Details on health care opportunities, how to access them and more information on province's Health Human Resources Action Plan are

The SHA has been actively promoting employment opportunities to nursing graduates and has been offering in-person career events throughout February, with more sessions scheduled in March and April. Following the launch of the **Grad Nurse Expression of Interest initiative** in December 2022 and subsequent social media outreach, 72 Nursing Graduates from Saskatchewan and out of province have been hired.

available at saskatchewan.ca/HHR.

Health system navigators are available to support all international health care workers seeking healthcare career opportunities. They can be contacted by email at HHR@health.gov.sk.ca for assistance.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources

Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund Webinars



Infrastructure Canada is hosting a series of webinars for guidance on preparing a strong Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF) application. They will provide an overview of the program, its requirements and advice to help applicants navigate the application process.

English sessions:

- Tuesday, February 28, 1:30-2:30pm (EST) (**FULL**)
- Thursday, March 9, 1:30-2:30pm (EST) (**FULL**)
- Tuesday, March 14, 1:30-2:30pm (EDT)
- Tuesday, March 21, 1:30-2:30pm (EDT)

French sessions:

- Friday, February 24, 1:30-2:30pm (EST)
- Thursday, March 2, 1:30-2:30pm (EST)

Webinars focusing on applicants from the Atlantic provinces:

- Tuesday, March 7, 1:30-2:30pm (EST) English session
- Friday, March 10, 1:30-2:30pm (EST) French session

Webinar focusing on Indigenous communities:

- Wednesday, March 1, 1:30-2:30pm (EST) English session

Webinar focusing on Northern communities:

- Thursday, March 16, 1:30-2:30pm (EDT) English session

[Learn More / Register](#)

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