

The weekly **Policy Bulletin**



April 4, 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

Municipalities: Apply by May 1 for Targeted Sector Support Initiative Funding

[On March 3, 2023], Government Relations Minister Don McMorris encouraged Saskatchewan municipalities to apply for project funding under the newest intake for the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative to help build even better communities across the province.

The TSS Initiative provides cost-shared grants of up to 75 per cent of eligible project costs and are funded under one of the following streams; dispute resolution and relationship building, capacity building, regional co-operation, and municipal transition.

This is the fifth project intake under the TSS Initiative, which is funded through the provincial government's Municipal Revenue Sharing Program. The Saskatchewan Association of Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) administers this funding on behalf of the TSS Steering Committee.

The TSS Steering Committee 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.



Previously approved projects include: training to enhance the governance skills of municipal officials; developing regional emergency plans; undertaking a municipal district feasibility study; and enhancing co-operation.

Interested municipalities can learn more and **apply here** or email **info@targetedsector.ca** for more information.

Applications for this intake will be accepted until Monday, May 1, 2023.

CRTC Launches Review

[On March 8, 2023], the CRTC launch[ed] a consultation on the Internet services market to increase competition, create more choice and lower prices. The CRTC recognizes its current approach is not meeting its objective of encouraging more competition in the Internet services market.

The CRTC will re-examine the rates competitors pay large telephone and cable companies for access to their networks. While it carries out this review, the CRTC is imposing an immediate 10% reduction on some wholesale rates.

The CRTC will also examine on an expedited basis whether large telephone and cable companies should provide competitors with access to their fibre-to-the-home networks, thus enabling faster Internet speeds to their customers.

The CRTC is welcoming comments until April 24, 2023 on the question of mandating access to fibre-to-the-home networks.

For all other issues within the scope of the review, comments are accepted until June 22, 2023.

Canadians can participate by:

- filling out the **online form**;
- writing to the Secretary General, CRTC, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2; or
- sending a fax to (819) 994-0218.

All comments received will form part of the public record and will inform the CRTC's decision.

[Read Full News Release](#)

FUTURE SUPPLY PLAN 2030 AND BEYOND



 **SaskPower**
Powering our future®

SaskPower Future Supply Plan - Public Input

SaskPower is looking for public input to help develop the Future Supply Plan for 2030

and beyond. In order to create a plan that reflects what's important to Saskatchewan residents, SaskPower engineers need to understand your values and priorities.

The goal is reliable and affordable power, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Provide your input and complete SaskPower's 5-minute survey [here](#).

Survey closes on April 5th.

Visit saskpower.com/engage to stay up-to-date on progress and participation opportunities for the Future Supply Plan - 2030 and Beyond.

[Take Survey](#)



Waste ReForum 2023

From increasing emphasis on the circular economy, to plastic pollution prevention, to volatile recycling prices, our world is changing rapidly. Join the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council (SWRC) to explore the opportunities in technology, partnerships, and policy that will move Saskatchewan toward becoming waste-free.

Join the SWRC for A Spectrum of Opportunities, featuring

- Tours of local facilities and businesses
- Workshop by Carousel Media: The Building Blocks To A Thriving Social Presence - What We Know Now & Wish We Knew Then
- Keynote Speakers Georgia Lavender from the Synergy Foundation and Sandy Bonny from the University of Saskatchewan
- Lightning Talks
- Sessions on: New Tech for Improving Operations, First Nation, Northern & Remote Communities, Wood Waste, the future of EPR and more

Dates: May 24-26, 2023

Location: Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Saskatoon

[Register Here](#)

Feedback

Ministry of Government Relations consultation on red tape review of *The Subdivision Regulations, 2014*

The Ministry of Government Relations is seeking input from a wide range of partners and organizations pertaining to phase one of their consultation on a red tape review of *The Subdivision Regulations, 2014*. Red tape is defined as any regulation that goes above and beyond what is required to meet the intended objective.

While some red tape is easily identifiable, some is not so easy. Some examples include:

- Regulation exceeds the benefit achieved from the regulation;
- Rules are unclear, confusing or overly complex;
- Rules are outdated, not relevant, obsolete or not enforced;
- Rules duplicate requirements, create gaps in service or conflict with other government agencies; or
- An issue might be better addressed through self-regulation or a specific sector, rather than through provincial government regulation.

SARM asks that its membership review *The Subdivision Regulations, 2014* and provide feedback to Mrs. Alicia Bay at abay@sarm.ca and/or Ms. Deanna Nichols at dnichols@sarm.ca no later than **end of day on Friday, May 12, 2023**.

The Ministry of Government Relations expects various submissions from stakeholders, some of whom may advocate for changes to the Regulations. Your answers will guide future consultations and better position the ministry to ensure that the Regulations meet the needs of citizens, investors, municipalities, and the province.

Please be as specific as possible when answering the questions below:

1. In what ways do the Regulations reflect the needs of your organization?
2. What challenges does your organization face when working with the Regulations?
3. In the interest of regulatory efficiency, are there any barriers or challenges your organization experiences with the Regulations?
4. Are the current Regulations for subdivision requirements appropriate? Why or why not?
5. What are the top three changes your organization would like the provincial government to consider when reviewing the Regulations?
6. Does your organization have any other comments or suggestions for improvements?

[View Discussion Paper and Regulations](#)

Information

Saskatchewan Introduces Legislation to License Physician Assistants

Saskatchewan is introducing legislative changes to allow a new profession of Physician Assistants to be licensed to practice in the province. The introduction of this new role will add more skilled professionals to the provincial health system to help address the demand for health human resources and provide a team-based

Physician Assistants are health professionals who have taken additional advanced training at one of the recognized programs in Canada. They practice medicine under the supervision of a licensed physician, often within a multidisciplinary health team.

This legislation supports the \$1.3 million investment in the 2023-24 Budget to create 12 Physician Assistant positions across the health care system for the first time. This

approach to health care.

The Medical Profession Amendment Act, 2023 introduced [on March 30, 2023] in the Saskatchewan legislature will regulate Physician Assistants under the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan and establish the scope of practice for the new profession.

initiative is part of the Government of Saskatchewan's nearly \$100 million investment to support the Health Human Resource Action Plan and continue to recruit, train, incentivize and retain more nurses, doctors, laboratory technicians and other health care workers.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Elm Pruning Ban Begins April 1

The annual ban on pruning elm trees in Saskatchewan begins April 1 and runs until August 31. The ban is in place to protect the province's elm trees by helping stop the spread of Dutch elm disease (DED).

DED is caused by a fungus that's spread by elm bark beetles. With warmer weather, these tiny beetles become more active and are attracted to fresh cuts on trees, making an infection more likely.

You are allowed to completely remove an elm tree during the ban period, but it's critical to dispose of all elm wood promptly and properly. Contact your local municipality to find out where the designated disposal site is in your area.

Transporting wood can also spread DED, as well as other insects and diseases. That's why it's illegal to use, transport, store or sell elm firewood. Provincial regulations also restrict the use, transport, storage and sale of elm logs.



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

[Read Full News Release](#)

Government and SMA Announce Changes Designed to Improve Patient Access and Alleviate Pressure on Emergency Rooms

The Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) [on March 31, 2023] announced an agreement in principle on enhancements to physician compensation designed to improve patient access to family physicians.

Increased funding will be made available to urgent care clinics offering after-hours and urgent care services to improve access for patients to reduce pressures on emergency departments. Urgent care clinics provide regular extended hours access on evenings, weekends and holidays to all patients with

an enhanced suite of services such as lab, casting and suturing.

In addition, all community-based, fee-for-service family physicians will be eligible to receive an additional payment per visit service. This change is aimed at supporting community-based family physicians to extend their office hours if they are able. Both these changes will help reduce the volume of patients attending emergency departments for less severe needs, decreasing wait times in emergency departments.

This agreement in principle complements the Government of Saskatchewan's nearly \$100 million investment in 2023-24 to support the Health Human Resource Action Plan and further advance work to recruit, train, incentivize and retain more doctors and other health care professionals. This includes the recently announced enhancement of the Rural Physician Incentive Program which now offers up to \$200,000 over five years to family physicians practising, or returning to practise, in rural and remote communities.

[Read Full News Release](#)



Government of Saskatchewan Grants \$90,000 to Support Ground-Breaking Chronic Wasting Disease Research

The Government of Saskatchewan is proud to announce a \$90,000 grant to support innovative research out of the University of Saskatchewan to study the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) and meningeal worm in woodland caribou and other boreal species.

Through this grant, the University of Saskatchewan's Dr. Phil McLoughlin and his team will study the population dynamics of deer in the southeastern part of the caribou range. This work uses state-of-the-art radio collars and trail cameras, enabling the team to better understand animal movements and develop a comprehensive transmission model.

Woodland caribou are a species at risk, and the spread of CWD and meningeal worm into the boreal forest poses a significant threat to their survival, as well as the survival of other cervid species. The presence of CWD in deer of the SK2 woodland caribou range and the northwesterly spread of meningeal worm has heightened the urgency to further understand transmission risks for caribou and other boreal species.

This grant builds upon previous funding from the Fish and Wildlife Development Fund to a larger umbrella project led by Dr. McLoughlin involving moose populations and the spread of meningeal worm in Saskatchewan.

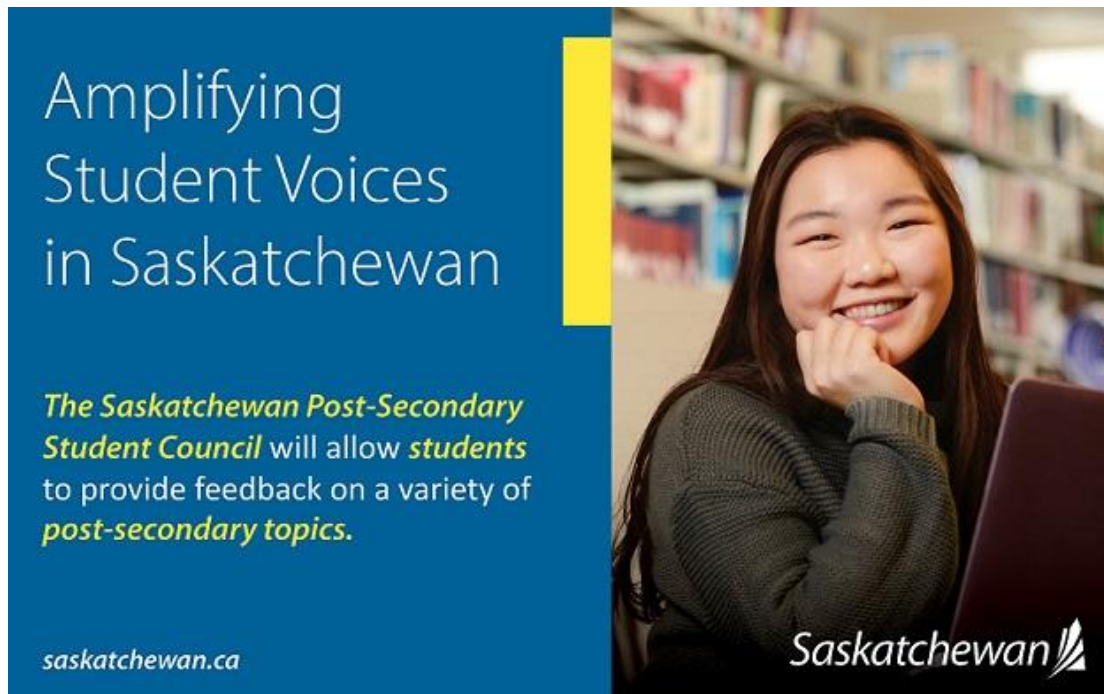
[Read Full News Release](#)

Amplifying Post-Secondary Student Voices in Saskatchewan

A new Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Student Council will give students opportunities to provide feedback on a broad range of post-secondary topics through direct engagement with the Ministry of Advanced Education. Students will provide advice,

insight and feedback on policies, emerging issues and trends in post-secondary education.

The council will be made up of approximately 20 students with a variety of interests, backgrounds, experiences and perspectives from post-secondary institutions across Saskatchewan. The council will begin operating in fall 2023 and students will serve on the council for one academic year. A new council will be selected the following year.



Institutions will nominate students based on criteria that include geographic location, diversity group and type of credential. Students being nominated will need to provide examples of leadership, teamwork skills and community impact. Students interested in joining the council can reach out to the Ministry of Advanced Education at AEStudentCouncil@gov.sk.ca to be directed to the correct contact at their institution. A ministry selection committee will review nominations and select students for the council.

For more information on the Saskatchewan Post-Secondary Student Council, visit saskatchewan.ca.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources



The following RM's have requested the information below to be distributed and will be billed for using this service.

Looking to Hire:

Resort Village of Tobin Lake, Administrator, MAY 3 - Close
RM of Mount Hope No. 279, Mower Operator, APR 14 - Close
RM of Moose Jaw No. 161, Full-Time Public Works Position, APR 24 - Close
RM of Webb No. 138, Municipal Administrator, APR 23 - Close

RM of Mount Hope No. 279, Assistant Administrator, APR 5 - Close
RM of Fertile Belt No. 183, Full-Time Supervisory Position, APR 20 - Close
RM of Prairie Rose No. 309, Permanent Equipment Operator, APR 15 - Close
RM of Prairie Rose No. 309, Full-Time Working Foreman, APR 15 - Close
RM of Chester No. 125, Seasonal Grader Operator/ Labourer, APR 7 - Close
RM of Harris No. 316, Equipment Operator, APR 6 - Close
RM of Perdue No. 346, Administrator, APR 10 - Close
RM of Meadow Lake No. 588, CAO/Administrator, APR 30 - Close

Looking to Buy/Sell:

RM of Humboldt No. 370, For Sale: 2005 Capital I One Way Plow, APR 30 - Close
RM of Storthoaks No. 31, For Sale: Set of Six Used Grader Tires, APR 23 - Close
RM of Enterprise No. 142, For Sale by Tender: Used 2014 G960B Volvo Grader, APR 17 - Close
RM of Craik No. 222, For Sale: Road Speed Signs, APR 16 - Close
RM of Birch Hills No. 460, For Sale by Tender: 1990 Grumman Pumper Truck, APR 12 - Close
RM of Frenchman Butte No. 501, For Sale by Tender: Used 2016 872G John Deere Grader, APR 10 - Close

SARM Classifieds



Transfer Station Chapter Implemented

The **Transfer Station Chapter** of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code has been approved and came into force on March 17, 2023.

Existing transfer station owners have six months, until September 17, 2023, when all existing transfer station permits will no longer be valid, to provide their notification by submitting existing documentation through the **online business portal**. New or expanding facilities must immediately comply with the chapter. The guidance document and **webpage** provide information and details on the notification process for owners and assist with compliance. Current transfer station operators will receive further information directly from the Ministry of Environment in the coming weeks on next steps.

The Transfer Station Chapter will reduce the time municipalities spend on permitting and reporting. It is intended to provide flexibility to achieve environmental compliance, while maintaining stable costs to communities. For more information, please read the **news release**.

Ministry staff remain available to respond to questions or comments, please contact us through the Inquiry Centre at 1-800-567-4224 or **centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca**.

Learn More

**Student Registration Opens
for Saskatchewan Distance
Learning Centre**

Saskatchewan Kindergarten to Grade 12 students who want to learn online through the new provincial online school can now begin registering at www.saskdlc.ca. Students can choose to attend the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Centre (Sask DLC) part-time or full-time depending on what options work best for them, and as with in-person education there is no cost for students under the age of 22.

Adult learners aged 22 and older are able to take Sask DLC courses as well, and will pay tuition for each course.

Sask DLC has more than 180 online course options covering all core requirements for each grade, and including many exciting high school electives such as Agriculture and Sustainable Food Production, Communications Media, Creative Writing, Drafting CAD, Financial Literacy, Hairstyling and Esthetics, Hockey Skills, Law, Mental Wellness, Photography, Psychology and Wildlife Management, among others.



Students who register with the new school will then be connected to their local school division, allowing students to access local supports and activities such as speech-language pathologists and educational psychology assessments. School divisions will also provide student activities such as driver's license training, graduation ceremonies and extra-curricular activities, including arts and sports. Registered students will be able to select courses in May.

Students who have questions or would like assistance registering can contact the Sask DLC at 306-252-1000 or helpdesk@saskDLC.ca.

[Learn More](#)

[Read Full News Release](#)

Enhanced Physician Incentive Program Now in Effect

The enhanced Rural Physician Incentive Program (RPIP) is now in effect to help attract more family physicians to rural and northern communities across Saskatchewan.

The Rural Physician Incentive Program first launched in 2013-14. The new \$200,000 incentive is more than four times the \$47,000 incentive that was previously offered. To enhance retention, the length of the program is increasing from four years to five years.

Eligibility for the incentive has also been expanded beyond new graduates to include physicians who take up practise in rural and northern communities following completion of the Saskatchewan International Physician Practice Assessment Program (SIPPA).

More information on the enhanced RPIP program, including program eligibility, can be found at saskatchewan.ca/rural-physician-incentive.

[Read Full News Release](#)



Housing Accelerator Fund Key Elements

CMHC Webinar

Please join the CMHC for a one-hour webinar on to learn about the Government of Canada's newest program, the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF).

The Fund is available to local governments within Canada, including First Nations, Métis, and Inuit governments, who have delegated authority over land use planning and development approvals.

By the end of the webinar, you will have learned:

- The program details and what are the expected outcomes
- The funding details and how you can maximize your application
- Important key resources to support your application.

Interested in knowing how HAF is boosting housing supply across Canada with incentive funding to local governments? Simply register to one of the upcoming webinars:

Date: April 6, 2023
Time: 11-12:00 p.m. CST

[Register](#)

Date: April 13, 2023
Time: 11-12:00 p.m. CST

[Register](#)

Water Security Agency Launches Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program for 2023

The Water Security Agency (WSA) is announcing the launch of the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program (EFDRP) for 2023 to help Saskatchewan communities and residents respond



to the challenge of possible flooding. WSA is investing up to \$500,000 for 2023.

The EFDRP provides financial, engineering and technical support to evaluate the potential flood risk to buildings and to identify options to mitigate the risk when flooding is imminent. Services include client discussions, site visits, hydrological and other technical evaluations, developing mitigation recommendations and cost share funding for permanent flood defenses and temporary relief

through pumping.

EFDRP expenditures do reap long-term preventative financial benefits. WSA has reviewed the program and determined each dollar invested in flood damage prevention saves a future \$20 to \$30 in property damage.

For more information on the EFDRP and details on how to apply, please [click here](#).

[Read Full News Release](#)

[Reach Out To Us](#)



[View Our Programs](#)



[View Our Resources](#)



(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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The weekly **Policy Bulletin**



April 18, 2023

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Reminders



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[Read Full News Release](#)

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All comments received will form part of the public record and will inform the CRTC's decision.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Feedback

Proposed Amendments to *Municipalities Act*

The Ministry of Government Relations is proposing targeted, minor amendments to *The Municipalities Act* for fall 2023, and related amendments (to corresponding provisions) in *The Cities Act* and *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010*.

Potential amendments include:

- refining existing provisions related to the property tax assessment appeal process, including the centralized board of revision and the assessment appeals registrar;
- pursuing minor amendments in areas related to organized hamlets, additional and special service areas, ward boundary reviews;
- tax phase-in authority for all urban and rural municipalities; and
- clarifying previous policy changes with several minor wording adjustments.

The ministry values the perspective of and input from all stakeholders and associations. Preliminary wording of the proposed amendments is attached for your review and feedback.

SARM asks that its membership review *The Municipalities Act* and provide feedback to Mrs. Alicia Bay at abay@sarm.ca and/or Ms. Deanna Nichols at dnichols@sarm.ca no later than **end of day on Wednesday, April 26, 2023**. For your convenience, the Ministry of Government Relations has prepared a summary with a comments column in the attached document.

After considering stakeholder feedback, the ministry intends to distribute a second version in early May for another chance to review. After this second version is sent out, they will be requesting formal letters of response from organizations by early June.

[Review Proposed Amendment Summary](#)

Promoting Stewardship in Agriculture

FieldWatch® is a non-profit company with a web-based mapping registry that promotes communication between producers of specialty and row crops, beekeepers, and pesticide applicators in support of ongoing stewardship activities. FieldWatch is the Single Source of Trusted Data in North America promoting sustainability for plants, pollinators, people and planet.

FieldWatch Registries

Growers of specialty, organic and conventional crops, seed producers, and beekeepers use dedicated registries to identify and map the locations of crop fields, apiaries or seed field workers pesticide applicators should avoid.

Looking for Your Feedback

FieldWatch is gathering user survey info to better understand usage, benefits, and input from their users as to the further development of their registries and mapping systems. Your responses will be a HUGE benefit to FieldWatch, other users and hopefully you as well. FieldWatch also plans to give out a few random Amazon gift cards to survey participants!

Applicator Survey

[Take Survey](#)

Crop Grower Survey

[Take Survey](#)

Beekeeper Survey

[Take Survey](#)

Register today at FieldWatch.com.

[View Promotional PDF](#)

Information

2023 Spring Weight Restrictions Begin April 7 on Secondary Highways

The 2023 spring road restrictions come into force in Saskatchewan on Friday, April 7. These restrictions are used by the province and rural municipalities to mitigate potential damage to our highway system.

The road bans reduce allowable weights on RM roads and secondary weight on provincial highways by 10 to 15 per cent and usually last about six weeks.

Typically, the road restrictions begin in March, once winter weights end on March 15. However, due to colder weather last month, restrictions were delayed.

With warmer temperatures and longer days coming, the 2023 restrictions will be province wide. In previous years, bans have been phased in by region because spring temperatures arrive sooner in the south.

The 2023 spring restrictions will remain in place for up to six weeks.

To check which highways are impacted, please visit saskatchewan.ca/trucking. Spring road bans will be posted under the "New Spring Order" link.

Information is also available by contacting the Highway Hotline at saskatchewan.ca/highwayhotline or by calling 511.

[Read Full News Release](#)

April Oil and Gas Public Offering Brings in \$11.1 Million for the Province

The Government of Saskatchewan's Crown petroleum and natural gas public offering held on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, has raised \$11,113,459.75 for the province.

Of the 147 parcels posted this sale, 105 parcels received acceptable bids.

The Estevan area saw the most interest, bringing in \$6,439,086.16 for 50 leases totaling 4,346.132 hectares.

The Lloydminster area also saw considerable interest, bringing in \$3,294,125.35 for 36 leases and two exploration licences totaling 9,617.094 hectares.

The highest bonus bid received on a lease in this offering is \$2,615,989.22 for a 258.7-hectare lease located northeast of Midale. Buffalo Hill Resources Ltd. was awarded this lease.

The next scheduled date for a public offering in Saskatchewan is June 6, 2023.

[Read Full News Release](#)



Province Passes Saskatchewan Firearms Act

[On April 6, 2023] government passed *The Saskatchewan Firearms Act* to enhance public safety across Saskatchewan and protect the rights of lawful firearms owners.

The Act will:

- With respect to recent changes by the federal government that impact lawful firearms owners:
 - establish licensing requirements for seizure agents involved in firearms expropriation;
 - require and oversee fair compensation for any firearms being seized; and
 - require forensic and ballistic testing of seized firearms.
- Establish a provincial firearms regulatory system that will promote the

safe and responsible use of firearms.

This legislation will be primarily administered by the Saskatchewan Firearms Office. The Office will also take on an expanded role in prosecuting non-violent provincial firearms offenses.

Government has dedicated approximately \$8.9 million to the Saskatchewan Firearms Office in the 2023-24 budget, which will include funding for initiatives such as:

- Creating a Central Management and Services (CMS) unit to administer the Firearms Act in Saskatchewan, which includes jurisdiction over the licensing, storage, transportation and carrying of firearms (\$2.2 million);
- Establishing a Firearms Compensation Committee to determine the fair market value of any firearms, ammunition and related accessories being expropriated by the federal government (\$1.3 million);
- Constructing a Saskatchewan Firearms Ballistics Lab to support police services and provide timely access to Saskatchewan-based ballistics and firearms expertise (\$927,000); and,
- Enhancing training and education regarding safe storage and firearms licensing.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Police Cost Re-distribution Formula Letter from the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

Following the provincial budget release on March 22, the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has recently indicated the per capita rates that will be charged out to municipalities for RCMP policing under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) for 2023-24. Please see the letter linked below for all the details.

They have also clarified about what can be expected around the issue of RCMP retro-active pay as follows:

The recent Federal budget announcement indicating jurisdictions will be invoiced for retroactive National Police Federal union member pay will not impact the per capita rates charged to municipalities in Saskatchewan via the police cost redistribution program. The province's formula in *The Police Regulations*, precludes any additional charge back to municipalities for retroactive pay liability. This is good news for our rural municipalities.

At the federal level we recently released the statement below with some of our fraternal organizations because it is important to note that the negotiation process is flawed, and the decisions made at that level do still impact all provinces and municipalities.

[Read Full Letter](#)

Resources

The following RM's have requested the information below to be distributed and will be billed for using this service.

Looking to Hire:

RM of Aberdeen No. 373, Seasonal Full-Time Equipment Operator, MAY 14 - Close

RM of Spiritwood No. 496, Seasonal Full-Time Heavy Equipment Operator/Labourer, APR 29 - Close

SARM, Policy Analyst, APR 28 - Close

RM of Montmartre No. 126, Seasonal Full-Time Equipment Operator, MAY 10 - Close

SARM, Programs Administrative Assistant, APR 21 - Close

RM of Wawken No. 93, Tractor and Mower Operator, MAY 5 - Close

RM of Dufferin No. 190, Full-Time Grader Operator, MAY 2 - Close

RM of Britannia No. 502, Seasonal Employment Opportunities, APR 22 - Close

RM of Britannia No. 502, Temporary Development Services Officer, APR 22 - Close

RM of Mervin No. 499, Administrative Assistant, APR 30 - Close

RM of Dundurn No. 314, Superintendent of Public Works, MAY 2 - Close

RM of Moose Jaw No. 161, Full-Time Public Works Position, APR 24 - Close

RM of Webb No. 138, Municipal Administrator, APR 23 - Close

RM of Fertile Belt No. 183, Full-Time Supervisory Position, APR 20 - Close

RM of Perdue No. 346, Administrator, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Meadow Lake No. 588, CAO/Administrator, APR 30 - Close

Looking to Buy/Sell:

RM of Victory No. 226, For Sale: 2007 140H CAT Grader with Ripper/Scarifier, MAY 14 - Close

RM of McLeod No. 185, For Sale: 2015 Cat 140 M Grader, MAY 13 - Close

RM of Mount Hope No. 279, For Sale by Tender: Various Pieces of Equipment, MAY 12 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: Snow Plow A Frames with Conversion Blocks, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: Highline Mower with attached Sidearm and Joystick, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: 2010 Degelman Mower Rev 1500 with Degelman 1820 Sidearm, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: One-way Plow, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: One-Way Mow Board, MAY 10 - Close



SaskPower Power Talks

Saskatchewan's power system is changing, and SaskPower is inviting the public to learn more about the supply options it already uses and some it's considering for the future. Join us for our online energy education series Power Talks on April 27, May 2, 3, and 10.

SaskPower is in the process of updating their long-term power supply plan, and for the first time they're including the public in this process. During the first stage of this engagement process, participants told SaskPower they wanted to learn more about the supply options SaskPower currently uses and what's being considered for the future. They also said they want to hear from experts and industry professionals from other jurisdictions and utilities. So, SaskPower is hosting their first-ever energy education series called Power Talks, with topics that include nuclear power, the work their own SMR project team is undertaking, integrating large-scale renewables onto the power grid, and a closer look at other future supply options.

Learn more and register at saskpower.com/powertalks.

WSA Waterworks & Sewage Works Quick Reference Guide



Waterworks & Sewage Works Quick Reference Guide

Drinking Water



Wastewater



The Waterworks and Sewage Works Regulations



Environment Officer	
24-hour Upset Reporting Line	1.844.536.9494
24-hour Spill Report Line	1.800.667.7525
Approvals	wsa.engineeringandapprovals@wsask.ca
Standards	wsascienceandlicensingstandards@wsask.ca
Client Services - General Inquiry Line	1.866.727.5420
	client.service@wsask.ca

Drinking Water Standards & Objectives



Upset Reporting



Use of Chemicals in Drinking Water Treatment



[View Reference Guide \(PDF\)](#)

Transfer Station Requirement Updates

The Transfer Station Chapter has been finalized and came into effect on March 17, 2023. This update will reduce the time municipalities spend on permitting and reporting and is intended to provide flexibility to achieve environmental compliance while maintaining stable costs to communities.



Important information:

- **Current transfer station owners** have until Sept. 17, 2023, to provide

notification of their transfer station operations by submitting existing documents (Operations Plan and Emergency Response Plan) through the **online business portal**.

- **New or expanding facilities** must comply with the updated Chapter requirements immediately.

There is a guidance document available and updated **information online** to provide details on the notification process for owners and assist with compliance. Ministry staff are also available to answer questions and provide assistance. You can contact us by phone (toll-free) at 1-800-567-4224 or by email at **centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca**.

Thank you to everyone who provided input during the engagement process. Your feedback was key in the development of the Transfer Station Chapter.

Ice Thickness & Hazards Around Bodies of Water

Hear tips from experts to better prepare for outdoor winter activities on or around bodies of water. Featuring Regina Fire & Protective Services Deputy Chief, Glenn Wagner, and University of Manitoba Professor, Dr. Gordon Geisbrecht, Ph.D.

Ice Safety Shareable Resources



Share or download the videos.

Click on a video title.

Copy the description for ready-to-use social posts.

Approved messaging from subject matter experts accompanies each video in the Description field.

You may copy & paste the provided text in your social media, on your website, or use for public presentation.

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Glenn Wagner
Regina Fire & Protective Services

When the Ice Melts: Emergenc...

Rescue Teams: How Emergen...

Halting Hypothermia: How to S...

Driving on Ice: Making Safer C...

Good Ice, Bad Ice: Identifying ...

We would like to thank the following multi-year organizational-level sponsors:



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BEYOND “NOT IN MY BACKYARD:”

A rural response to the toxic drug emergency

May 9, 2023

10:00 - 11:30 am MT



Carolyn Greene
Athabasca University



Kate Hodgson
Lift Community Services



Kathryn Colby
Lift Community Services

Learn about harm reduction strategies to mitigate the tragic effects of the toxic drug public health emergency and make communities safer for everyone.



Event Details

Date: May 9, 2023

Time: 10-11:30am (MT)

Location: Online

Registration for this event is free.

[Register](#)

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Join representatives from the Athabasca University Communities in Transition initiative as they discuss the current impact of Canada's toxic drug supply as documented across five prairie cities and learn what research says we need to do to make communities safer for everyone.

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The weekly **Policy Bulletin**



April 25, 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

Proposed Amendments to *The Municipalities Act*



The Ministry of Government Relations is proposing targeted, minor amendments to *The Municipalities Act* for fall 2023, and related amendments (to corresponding provisions) in *The Cities Act* and *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010*.

Potential amendments include:

- refining existing provisions related to the property tax assessment appeal process, including the centralized board of revision and the assessment appeals registrar;
- pursuing minor amendments in areas related to organized hamlets, additional and special service areas, ward boundary reviews;
- tax phase-in authority for all urban and rural municipalities; and
- clarifying previous policy changes with several minor wording adjustments.

The ministry values the perspective of and input from all stakeholders and associations. Preliminary wording of the proposed amendments is attached for your review and feedback.

SARM asks that its membership review *The Municipalities Act* and provide feedback to Mrs. Alicia Bay at abay@sarm.ca and/or Ms. Deanna Nichols at dnichols@sarm.ca no later than **end of day on Wednesday, April 26, 2023**. For your convenience, the Ministry of Government Relations has prepared a summary with a comments column in the attached document.

After considering stakeholder feedback, the ministry intends to distribute a second version in early May for another chance to review. After this second version is sent out, they will be requesting formal letters of response from organizations by early June.

[Review Proposed Amendment Summary](#)

CRTC Launches Review

[On March 8, 2023], the CRTC launch[ed] a consultation on the Internet services market to increase competition, create more choice and lower prices. The CRTC

recognizes its current approach is not meeting its objective of encouraging more competition in the Internet services market.

The CRTC will re-examine the rates competitors pay large telephone and cable companies for access to their networks. While it carries out this review, the CRTC is imposing an immediate 10% reduction on some wholesale rates.

The CRTC will also examine on an expedited basis whether large telephone and cable companies should provide competitors with access to their fibre-to-the-home networks, thus enabling faster Internet speeds to their customers.

The CRTC is welcoming comments until April 24, 2023 on the question of mandating access to fibre-to-the-home networks.

For all other issues within the scope of the review, comments are accepted until June 22, 2023.

Canadians can participate by:

- filling out the **online form**;
- writing to the Secretary General, CRTC, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2; or
- sending a fax to (819) 994-0218.

All comments received will form part of the public record and will inform the CRTC's decision.

[Read Full News Release](#)



SaskPower Power Talks

Saskatchewan's power system is changing, and SaskPower is inviting the public to learn more about the supply options it already uses and some it's considering for the future. Join us for our online energy education series Power Talks on April 27, May 2, 3, and 10.

SaskPower is in the process of updating their long-term power supply plan, and for the first time they're including the public in this process. During the first stage of this engagement process, participants told SaskPower they wanted to learn more about the supply options SaskPower currently uses and what's being considered for the future.

They also said they want to hear from experts and industry professionals from other jurisdictions and utilities. So, SaskPower is hosting their first-ever energy education series called Power Talks, with topics that include nuclear power, the work their own SMR project team is undertaking, integrating large-scale renewables onto the power grid, and a closer look at other future supply options.

Learn more and register at saskpower.com/power talks.

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Share

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More Resources

www.sasksafety.org

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[Learn More](#)

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Transfer Station Requirement Updates

The Transfer Station Chapter has been finalized and came into effect on March 17, 2023. This update will reduce the time municipalities spend on permitting and reporting and is intended to provide flexibility to achieve environmental compliance while maintaining stable costs to communities.



Important information:

- **Current transfer station owners** have until Sept. 17, 2023, to provide notification of their transfer station operations by submitting existing documents (Operations Plan and Emergency Response Plan) through the [online business portal](#).
- **New or expanding facilities** must comply with the updated Chapter requirements immediately.

There is a guidance document available and updated **information online** to provide details on the notification process for owners and assist with compliance. Ministry staff are also available to answer questions and provide assistance. You can contact us by phone (toll-free) at 1-800-567-4224 or by email at centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca.

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Athabasca University
SSHRC CRSH
Canada

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Feedback

The Trip Inspection Regulations Review

The Ministry of Highways is conducting a review of **The Trip Inspection Regulations**. The Ministry is looking to obtain feedback on the regulations, proposed amendments and any other suggested changes you may have for the regulations.

Please find the attached letter providing information on the review and a link to

the consultation survey being conducted as part of the Ministry's review.

The survey will be available until **May 19, 2023**.

If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Programs Unit via email at mhitrucking@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More / Take Survey](#)

FCM's Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Feedback Survey



If you work in *any part* of the infrastructure lifecycle at a municipality you have knowledge that can impact how GMF programs are designed. Your experience and expertise will help identify where support is most critical, regional specificities, and key decision-gates for infrastructure projects. You will also inform how GMF builds equity and climate considerations into its programs.

Complete this 20-minute survey by **May 8, 2023**.

We thank you in advance for completing the survey and stay tuned to **FCM Connect** where GMF will share what it has learned from all the respondents.

[Take Survey](#)



Industrial Rail Amendment - Application to Construct

The Ministry of Highways Transportation Policy and Programs branch, continuously reviews all aspects of *The Railway Act* and related guidelines and standard.

The purpose of the ongoing review is to ensure *The Railway Act*, guidelines and standards align with federal railway rules and requirements, are modernized to reflect the economic landscape of Saskatchewan, minimize red tape, and most importantly maintain and promote safe railway operations.

As part of this review process, there was a need identified to provide greater clarity on the scope of railway expansion projects that do not require formal approval under the Act.

Attached for your review is an updated version of our existing *Application to Construct, Acquire or Alter a Railway - PRG1001*

The primary change to the guideline includes the following criteria to better define small scale railway alteration projects that don't pose a substantial change the nature of the railway operation:

Existing railways are not required to obtain an Authorization to Construct or Alter if the proposed rail expansion or alteration:

1. Does not cross any public road
2. Does not cross any existing utility lines
3. Extends the railway line(s) a combined total of less than 500 m
4. Alters the centerline of an existing railway line by less than 5 m from the original centerline and is within the railway's existing right of way or property boundaries
5. Does not require the acquisition of additional land; and
6. Is not intended for the storage, loading, or transportation of dangerous goods.

If you have any questions about this amended guideline or would like to provide feedback, please contact us by email at rail.services@gov.sk.ca before **May 30, 2023**.

For reference our guidelines and standards can be [found here](#).

[Review Application PRG1001](#)



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada





Strategic Immigration Review Survey

This anonymous survey is being conducted by Hill+Knowlton Strategies on behalf of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). It should take about 15 minutes to complete, including four (4) questions that invite you to provide written comments. The survey begins with a few questions that will help us understand who responded to the survey. Each section includes information about Canada's immigration system for you to think about.

Canada needs an immigration system that is strong, easy to navigate, and adaptive to change. Your input on how to achieve this is important. The survey is open until **April 27, 2023**.

For more information on this engagement process, please [click here](#).

[Take Survey](#)

Information

Innovation Saskatchewan Partners with WHIN and Cultivator Powered by Conexus to Support Agtech Development and Growth

[On April 19, 2023], the Government of Saskatchewan announced the pilot partnership between Innovation Saskatchewan (IS), Wabash Heartland Innovation Network (WHIN), and Cultivator powered by Conexus (Cultivator) to further support agricultural technology development and economic growth in the province.

This new collaboration will establish an important connection to a significant market in the U.S. grain belt and help accelerate the commercialization and adoption of Saskatchewan agtech technologies through field trials with WHIN's Ag Alliance members. These opportunities will act as a soft landing pad for Saskatchewan agtech companies expanding to new markets and are critical for their growth and success.

With an extensive network of agricultural producers and manufacturers throughout 10 north-central Indiana counties, WHIN will help formalize and operationalize this farmer network to foster more field trial and validation opportunities for Saskatchewan agtech companies. This strategy compliments Cultivator's goals of accelerating agtech through its AGTECH Accelerator program and Million Acres project, which is developing a farmer network across the province and country that represents a collective of one million acres of farmland.

Innovation Saskatchewan, WHIN and Cultivator will work together with existing agricultural infrastructure in the province to help support early-stage agtech startups, create a pipeline for future investments, help stimulate the provincial economy and triple the technology sector, all of which were identified as important objectives in Saskatchewan's Growth Plan 2020-30.

[Read Full News Release](#)

EMS Enhancements for 31 Communities Across the Province

An increase of \$8.8 million annual funding in the 2023-24 provincial budget will support Emergency Medical Services (EMS) improvements for 31 Saskatchewan communities by adding rural and remote ground ambulance staff, expanding community paramedicine, addressing wage parity issues, and providing more operational funding for contracted EMS operators and communication upgrades.

The funding increase of \$8.8 million includes over \$3.5 million to support the addition of 33 full time equivalent (FTE) positions in the following 27 Saskatchewan communities:

Biggar	Lestock	Prince Alber
Carnduff	Lloydminster	Radville
Cupar	Melville	Shaunavon
Cut Knife	Moose Jaw	Stoughton
Eston	Nipawin	Wakaw
Fillmore	Norquay	Wawota
Hudson Bay	North Battleford	Weyburn
Kamsack	Outlook	Wilkie
Kindersley	Porcupine Plain	Yorkton

A \$739,000 increase will expand the community paramedicine program within five communities in rural and northern Saskatchewan, further enhancing the available

community supports. This funding includes an additional 3.75 FTE community paramedicine positions that will be distributed across a number of ground ambulance services in the province, including the communities of La Ronge, Beauval, Buffalo Narrows, Estevan and Weyburn.

Contracted EMS providers across the province will receive a \$2.6 million increase in wage parity funding to assist with recruitment and retention measures by ensuring wages remain competitive.

Other key investments include:

- \$866,000 to support a two per cent grant increase for contracted ambulance operators across the province to mitigate rising operational pressures;
- Over \$1 million to support EMS communications equipment and technology upgrades.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Province Expands Police and Crisis Team in Regina and Saskatoon

The Government of Saskatchewan is providing \$468,800 in the 2023-24 Budget to the Saskatoon Police Service and Regina Police Service to expand the Police and Crisis Team (PACT) program in those communities.

PACT is a collaborative effort between government, police and the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) to change the way mental health emergencies are handled in the community. PACT pairs a mental health professional with a police officer, creating a team that is mobile and can help stabilize people experiencing a mental health crisis.

The funding will provide for an additional police position in Regina and Saskatoon at a cost of \$114,400 each, and \$240,000 in total to fund the accompanying mental health positions.

The goal of PACT is to provide appropriate care for individuals who would be better served in the community, reducing emergency room visits and helping to keep clients who are facing a mental health crisis out of the criminal justice system.



In the 2023-24 Budget, the province is investing a total of \$2.833 million in the PACT initiative. Corrections, Policing and Public Safety is providing \$1.373 million to fund 12 police positions: Saskatoon (3), Regina (3), Moose Jaw (2), Prince Albert (1), Estevan (1), Yorkton (1) and North Battleford (1). This includes one new police position in Regina and Saskatoon, plus an additional \$400,000 for four PACT mental health and social workers. In addition, the Ministry of Health will provide the SHA with \$1.06 million toward the PACT mental health professional component.

In 2021-22, PACT teams were involved in 4,676 police calls for service, performed over 5,000 PACT assessments, and diverted more than 1,300 clients from emergency departments across the province.

[Read Full News Release](#)



Tourism Week - April 24-30

The Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed April 24-30 as Saskatchewan Tourism Week. The week coincides with the national celebration of Tourism Week in

Canada.

Saskatchewan Tourism Week brings attention to the significance of tourism, which generates over \$2 billion in annual travel spending and employs almost 70,000 Saskatchewan residents in full- and part-time positions. It is a time to acknowledge tourism businesses and operators, whose efforts drive a vibrant visitor economy, create jobs and enhance quality of life.

The week will be a time to encourage Saskatchewan residents to discover something new this summer - to plan road trips through the province, try new activities, taste different flavours and explore unique, authentic experiences that set Saskatchewan apart from other destinations.

There is enthusiasm among industry as travel steadily increases and operators prepare for a busy summer season. Throughout the week, Tourism Saskatchewan will release a series of videos on Facebook. These stories showcase the province's abundant tourism resources and some of the people, experiences and events that make Saskatchewan an inviting destination. For more information on Saskatchewan Tourism Week, visit business.tourismsaskatchewan.com.

[Read Full News Release](#)

Resources



The following RM's have requested the information below to be distributed and will be billed for using this service.

Looking to Hire:

RM of Glen McPherson No. 46, Temporary Seasonal Grader Operator, MAY 11 - Close

RM of Mankota No. 45 & RM of Glen McPherson No. 46, Temporary Administrative Assistant, MAY 22 - Close

Village of Pelly, Administrator, MAY 19 - Close

RM of Aberdeen No. 373, Seasonal Full-Time Equipment Operator, MAY 14 - Close

RM of Spiritwood No. 496, Seasonal Full-Time Heavy Equipment Operator/Labourer, APR 29 - Close

SARM, Policy Analyst, APR 28 - Close

RM of Montmartre No. 126, Seasonal Full-Time Equipment Operator, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Wawken No. 93, Tractor and Mower Operator, MAY 5 - Close

RM of Dufferin No. 190, Full-Time Grader Operator, MAY 2 - Close

RM of Mervin No. 499, Administrative Assistant, APR 30 - Close

RM of Dundurn No. 314, Superintendent of Public Works, MAY 2 - Close
RM of Perdue No. 346, Administrator, MAY 10 - Close
RM of Meadow Lake No. 588, CAO/Administrator, APR 30 - Close

Looking to Buy/Sell:

RM of Invergordon No. 430, For Sale: 2020 Capital I Grader Reclaimer, MAY 25 - Close

RM of Tecumseh No. 65, Looking to Buy: Used Brillion Sure Stand Seeder, MAY 22 - Close

RM of McLeod No. 185, For Sale: 1980 John Deer 4440, MAY 16 - Close

RM of McLeod No. 185, For Sale: 1980 John Deer 4240, MAY 16 - Close

RM of Willner No. 253, For Sale by Tender: 2017 Highline Mower, MAY 11 - Close

RM of Victory No. 226, For Sale: 2007 140H CAT Grader with Ripper/Scarifier, MAY 14 - Close

RM of McLeod No. 185, For Sale: 2015 Cat 140 M Grader, MAY 13 - Close

RM of Mount Hope No. 279, For Sale by Tender: Various Pieces of Equipment, MAY 12 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: Snow Plow A Frames with Conversion Blocks, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: Highline Mower with attached Sidearm and Joystick, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: 2010 Degelman Mower Rev 1500 with Degelman 1820 Sidearm, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: One-way Plow, MAY 10 - Close

RM of Rocanville No. 151, For Sale by Tender: One-Way Mow Board, MAY 10 - Close

SARM Classifieds



New SARCAN Depot Shines in Saskatoon

Today the Minister of Environment joined SARCAN employees for the grand opening of their new depot in Saskatoon.

Although the new depot is twice the size of the facility it has replaced, it uses a fraction of the energy thanks to an innovative design. There is also more parking and additional conveyor belts for faster service.

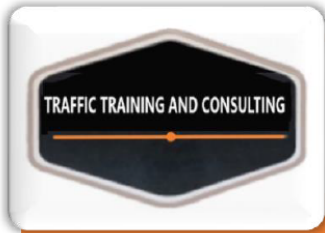
In addition to the grand opening and celebrating 35 years of operation, SARCAN recycled their 10 billionth container earlier this

Saskatchewan's Growth Plan envisions 1.4 million people living in the province by 2030. With this goal in mind, the Government of Saskatchewan recognizes how managing our solid waste requires a strategic approach to ensure our landfills are not overwhelmed and the environment is not polluted.

SARCAN's impressive recycling numbers support the Solid Waste Management Strategy which contributes to Saskatchewan's Growth Plan, setting a foundation to support a strong economy, strong communities and strong families, and build a stronger Saskatchewan.

year.

[Read Full News
Release](#)



Traffic Training and Consulting (TTAC)

Since 2018

TTAC has one of the most experienced instructors in the province - one with more than just field experience!

Traffic Training and Consulting

Wade Hoffman created formed Traffic Training and Consulting (TTAC) an answer to the demand from numerous road building contractors for him to return to teaching the course. Wade involved the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure right from the start to ensure that the course content was current and accurate. Wade is committed to delivering the highest caliber of Work Zone training.

A couple of highlights are:

- Fundamentals of Work Zones
- Introduction to the related Legislation
- Traffic Plan exercises
- High level perusal of the manual including discussion on traffic control devices
- Detailed list of the Traffic Accommodation Supervisor's duties

Wade sees this training as relevant to anyone involved in road construction, whether they work on a provincial highway, a municipal road or for a Crown corporation; anywhere "where employees are at risk from vehicular traffic" Reg 9-22.

Any heavy construction company working on a provincial highway must have a TAS (Traffic Accommodation Supervisor) on the work site and that person must have a current training certificate from a vendor approved by the Ministry of Highways. It is a condition of their contract with the ministry.

Those working on municipal roads don't have that same "TAS" requirement, but still need to meet the legal requirements for employee training. Hoffman offers a similar but shorter program developed for their needs.

To find out about registering for Hoffman's training either the flagging course or the work zone course he can be contacted by phone at (306) 537-9648 or by email at wadehoffman.ttac@gmail.com.

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Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities | 2301 Windsor Park Road, Regina,
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