

Ministry of Government Relations

Annual Report for
2019-20

Table of Contents

- Letters of Transmittal..... 3
- Ministry of Government Relations Overview 4
- Progress in 2019-20 Ministry Goal 1..... 5
- Progress in 2019-20 Ministry Goal 2..... 8
- Progress in 2019-20 Ministry Goal 3..... 10
- Financial Summary 12
- Appendix A: Acts & Regulations..... 17

Letters of Transmittal



*The Honourable
Lori Carr
Minister of Government
Relations and Minister
Responsible for First
Nations, Métis and
Northern Affairs*

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Ministry of Government Relations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori Carr".

Lori Carr
Minister of Government Relations and
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs



*J. Greg Miller
Deputy Minister of
Government Relations
and Deputy Minister
of First Nations, Métis
and Northern Affairs*

The Honourable Lori Carr
Minister of Government Relations and
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report for the Ministry of Government Relations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Greg Miller".

J. Greg Miller
Deputy Minister of Government Relations and
Deputy Minister of First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Ministry of Government Relations

Overview

The ministry is responsible for municipal relations, public safety, and First Nations, Métis and northern affairs. The ministry engages a diverse range of partners and stakeholders to: plan for and respond to the opportunities and challenges of growth; provide leadership and direction so that integrated public services are available to communities and their residents; and support responsible governments. The Provincial Capital Commission was transferred to the ministry's purview in 2019-20.

Ministry staff work in Regina, Saskatoon, La Ronge and Buffalo Narrows locations. The ministry's full-time equivalent (FTE) utilization in 2019-20 was 215.5 FTEs.

Legislation

The Amusement Ride Safety Act
The Assessment Appraisers Act
The Assessment Management Agency Act
The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act, 1999
The Border Areas Act
The Cities Act
The City of Lloydminster Act
The Community Planning Profession Act, 2013
The Education Property Tax Act
The Electrical Licensing Act
The Emergency 911 System Act
The Fire Safety Act
The Flin-Flon Extension of Boundaries Act, 1952
The Gas Licensing Act
The Government Relations Administration Act
The Indian and Native Affairs Act
The Local Government Election Act, 2015
The Local Improvements Act, 1993
The Métis Act
The Municipal Board Act
The Municipal Expropriation Act
The Municipal Grants Act
The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act
The Municipalities Act
The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010
The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act
The Planning and Development Act, 2007
The Rural Municipal Administrators Act
The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act
The Saskatchewan Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (Treaty Land Entitlement) Act
The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency Act
The Tax Enforcement Act
The Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan Act
The Time Act
The Treaty Land Entitlement Implementation Act
The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act
The Urban Municipal Administrators Act
The Urban Municipality Act, 1984

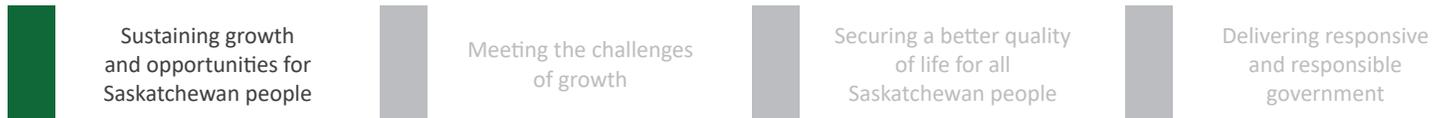
A complete account of Acts and Regulations is provided in Appendix A.

View the ministry's 2019-2020 Operational Plan at www.saskatchewan.ca/government-relations.

Progress in 2019-20 Ministry

Goal 1

Government Goals



Ministry Goal

Communities are effectively governed and prepared to manage growth.

Strategy

Enhance regional and municipal governance and planning to manage public services and economic opportunities and challenges.

Key Actions

Increase the quality and quantity of regional planning efforts through targeted incentives and educational/training resources.

- Implemented the first intake of applications for the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative. The TSS initiative stems from recommendations made during the 2018-19 review of the Municipal Revenue Sharing Program. The TSS initiative will provide funding for regional projects that advance inter-community collaboration and regional planning initiatives aimed at enhancing municipal capacity. Fifty-seven applications were received during the first intake. A steering committee will evaluate and identify successful projects during the 2020-21 fiscal year.
- Continued to develop education and training resources for municipalities aimed at advancing regional co-operation.
- Hosted voluntary regional co-operation workshops for municipalities in early 2020. The voluntary regional co-operation workshops were arranged to help municipal councils and administration increase administrative and governance capacity, improve operational functions and build collaborative approaches to service delivery with their neighbours.

Complete subdivision reviews in a timely manner to facilitate economic growth and development, and meet health and safety needs.

- The subdivision of land is a key step for investment in economic growth as it precedes actual development. Through the Integrated Subdivision Approval Program (ISAP), the ministry ensures that future lots are suitable for development. This includes confirming infrastructure is available to service the 900 subdivision applications approved for 1,586 new commercial, industrial and residential lots, which represents approximately \$238 million of development potential.
- The ISAP program also ensured \$52 million worth of investment was safeguarded by approving 173 applications with conditions to prevent unsafe development.

Strategy

Leverage federal funding and provide funding to support provincial, municipal and First Nations and Métis interests.

Key Actions

Begin implementing the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to support shared provincial, municipal and Indigenous interests.

- In Spring 2019, the ministry received over 1,400 project submissions with over \$6 billion in infrastructure demand through an expression of interest. From this process, 25 priority projects were recommended for immediate funding consideration. Twenty-four of the 25 projects were approved and announced in 2019-20.

- An application for two ICIP program funding streams (Green Infrastructure and Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure) opened on December 18, 2019 and closed May 15, 2020. Priority projects will be identified and submitted for final approval in the Summer of 2020-21.

Work with Indigenous Services Canada, municipalities and First Nations to identify and facilitate joint planning and development of community infrastructure.

- The ministry leveraged ICIP to promote regional co-operation through the application process. The program is also designed to provide benefits to Indigenous peoples not living on reserve.

Provide increased Municipal Revenue Sharing (MRS) based on a program review and consultation with the municipal sector to ensure a new predictable, sustainable and transparent formula.

- The MRS program review was completed in February 2019 with changes to *The Municipal Grants Amendment Regulation, 2019* approved in April 2019.
- The results of the program review were implemented starting this fiscal year with amending the grant to the value of .75 of 1 point of the Provincial Sales Tax from the second preceding year. This resulted in MRS funding of \$251 million in 2019-20, an increase of approximately four per cent over 2018-19.

Ensure that provincial grants to municipalities meet program requirements.

- 2019-20 was a test year for the Municipal Revenue Sharing Eligibility Requirement program. All municipalities were asked to complete and submit a declaration on their compliance in six areas of municipal legislation.
- 670 or 87 per cent of municipalities completed the declaration. The intent is to fully implement the program in 2020-21.

Provide increased Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities (TAPD) capital program funding to support additional vehicle purchases each year, and to provide improved accessibility to those who need it.

- TAPD was initiated in 1975 to encourage the establishment of municipal paratransit services. The operating grant helps cover operating costs and keeps trip rates reasonable for users. The capital portion of the program assists municipalities with purchasing vehicles for safe, accessible transportation through a public paratransit system.
- One of Government's six initial actions of Saskatchewan's Disability Strategy is to improve the availability of accessible and safe transportation in communities for people experiencing disability. In 2019-20, the Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities program budget was \$3.8 million. This included \$3 million for operating grants as well as \$800,000 for capital grants, which was up from the 2018-19 budget amount of \$550,000. All grants for 2019-20 were awarded or committed to eligible recipients.

Strategy

Work with local governments to improve community sustainability.

Key Actions

Assist municipalities in meeting their legislated responsibilities by delivering advisory services using up-to-date, reliable tools and channels.

- The ministry's municipal advisors participated in or led 34 training sessions for elected and appointed officials in Saskatchewan municipalities, reaching 2,917 attendees.
- The ministry quickly changed from in-person workshops to online training delivery at the end of the fiscal year in accordance with Saskatchewan's public health order.

Work with the municipal and administrator associations to develop plans, resources and training to increase the quantity and quality of asset management at the municipal level.

- The ministry renewed its Gas Tax Fund (GTF) agreement with the federal government and amended its municipal GTF agreements with all municipalities in late 2019.
- Amendments to GTF agreements with municipalities allows for unspent funds to be used for capacity-building efforts by municipal associations.
- The ministry continues to support municipalities as they work towards the June 30, 2020 requirements set out in the "Asset Management: Making Progress - Guide to GTF Agreement Requirements".

Work with municipal and land use planning associations to develop resources and training to increase the quality and quantity of regional and municipal official community plans and bylaws.

- The ministry worked with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities to update the Municipal Leadership Development Program land use planning module to advance regional planning, as well as prepare a Planning 101 Webinar.
- The ministry continued to work towards finalizing a manual to further support planning districts in engaging their communities.
- The ministry consulted with stakeholders, including municipal and land use planning associations, regarding future amendments to *The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations*. The amendments look to improve the quality of land use planning bylaws in Saskatchewan, including policies related to regional planning.
- The ministry continues to support planning districts by providing technical advice on development and operational matters and providing funding targeted at regional co-operation and advancing regional planning capacity. The ministry received and approved funding requests from five planning districts in 2019-20.

Work with justice ministries and the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority to support and enable the development of community alcohol management strategies in northern communities.

- Many northern Saskatchewan communities incorporated alcohol management strategies into their Official Community Plans and Zoning Bylaws. The ministry continues to support communities with bylaw templates which regulate the consumption and distribution of beverage alcohol within municipal boundaries.

Strategy

Ensure a fair and effective property tax regime.

Key Actions

Implement recommendations from the municipal review of industry financial contributions to rural municipalities, rural road infrastructure, and accountability to improve the usage of road maintenance agreements.

- Amendments to *The Municipalities Act*, including those relating to road maintenance agreements, received second reading at the Legislature at the end of this fiscal year.
- Regulation amendments to update road maintenance agreement rates are expected in 2020-21.

Support the 2021 property tax revaluation, including establishing percentages of value and property classes, approving the assessment manual and continuing to improve public understanding of the property tax system.

- The ministry continues to update the Property Assessment and Tax Mapping and Analysis Program with the actual assessment data for the 2021 revaluation. Completed scenarios will be compared to the trended value scenarios used for consultation purposes.

Provide additional funding to the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) to allow for more property inspections which provides more up-to-date assessment data and promotes property tax fairness for all ratepayers.

- SAMA receives grants from the ministry on a quarterly basis; this includes the additional funding which was approved for this fiscal year.

Performance Measure Results

Percentage of the population living in municipalities with official community plans

Official community plans (OCP) set out policies to govern land use and development, outline the municipalities' economic growth strategies, encourage environmental stewardship, plan sustainable infrastructure, support recreational opportunities and address community interests.

- As of March 31, 2020, 91.5 per cent of Saskatchewan citizens are living in municipalities with an OCP. This marks a major increase from the 75 per cent adoption rate in 2009-10.

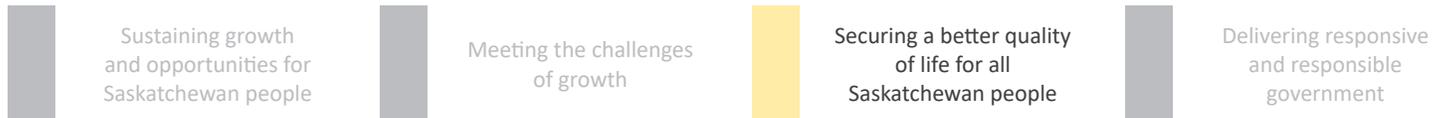
Number of sites approved with conditions to prevent unsafe development

Requiring subdivision developments to have proper disaster mitigation standards in place before sites are approved will limit impacts from potential disasters, such as slope instability and flooding.

- There were 173 sites or \$52 million of development approved with conditions required to mitigate risks associated with flooding

Progress in 2019-20 Ministry Goal 2

Government Goals



Ministry Goal

Safer communities that are better prepared for disasters and emergencies.

Strategy

Improve and promote provincial and local emergency preparedness, risk mitigation and recovery.

Key Actions

Support the new Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) to become fully operational.

- The ministry worked closely with the SPSA to ensure a successful transition of the ministry's emergency management and fire safety staff to the agency on July 7, 2019.
- The transition occurred with no disruptions to emergency services during wildfire season.
- The ministry also worked closely with the Ministry of Environment to successfully transfer wildfire management services to the SPSA in November 2019.

Advocate that disaster mitigation projects continue as a priority for support under federal/provincial infrastructure programs.

- The ministry continues to work across jurisdictions to advocate for greater flexibility and access to funding for mitigation projects.
- The ministry leverages its other programs such as the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and the Gas Tax Fund to ensure funding continues to be provided, or is allowed to be allocated towards, disaster mitigation projects.

Provide financial assistance to residents, municipalities and other entities through the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP).

- Service standards for closing private claims within 90 days have consistently been met for the past two years.
- This year, PDAP supported 37 claims filed by 20 principle residents, five municipalities, five small businesses, three agricultural property owners and four others (i.e., displacements, charitable organizations, etc.).

Develop a First Nations and Métis public safety strategy in partnership with Canada and Saskatchewan's Aboriginal peoples to identify their capacity and needs to ensure provincial resources augment current and future programs/services.

- This action is no longer being pursued or reported on by the ministry, as this function was transferred to the SPSA.

Strategy

Promote the construction, renovation and safe operation of buildings, facilities and equipment in compliance with codes and standards.

Key Actions

Implement the direction to transfer gas, electrical licensing and inspection, and plumbing inspection to the Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan (TSASK).

- The ministry continues to work closely with TSASK to support requirements for transferring responsibilities and authorities from the ministry's gas and electrical licensing unit to TSASK.
- Gas and electrical licensing staff are expected to transfer to TSASK in summer of 2020 pending the necessary legislative amendments.

Amend technical and public safety legislation to provide improved options and powers to mandate compliance with legislative and regulatory standards.

- Amendments to *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act* and other public safety acts received Royal Assent on May 15, 2019. These amendments add enforcement powers for chief officials in order to ensure greater consistency in enforcement tools across all of the ministry's technical and public safety acts. Amendments also simplify enforcement across industries.

Modernize technical safety legislation and regulations to better reflect the delivery of services.

- The ministry engaged stakeholders regarding future changes to *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act* to ensure legislation and regulations provide the necessary support and powers for all parties involved in the construction of buildings. Changes will simplify legislative requirements for building owners, the construction industry and local authorities.
- The ministry is supporting Saskatchewan in fulfilling its commitment under the *Canadian Free Trade Agreement* for the timely adoption and harmonization of construction codes.

Performance Measure Results

Percentage of the population covered by building bylaws

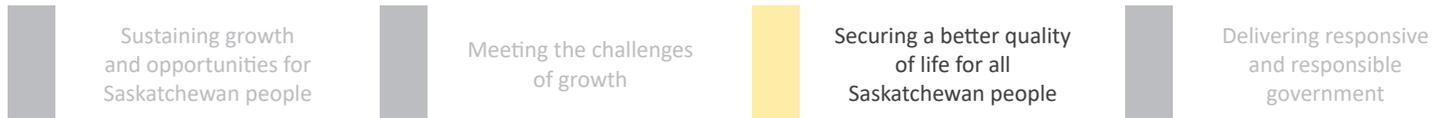
Eighty-nine per cent of the province's population live in municipalities with building bylaws, which help to ensure people live and work in safe buildings. Ongoing efforts by the ministry, as well as inter-ministry and agency co-ordination, will increase the implementation by municipalities of building bylaws approved under *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act*.

- The results remain steady with 89 per cent of the province's population living in municipalities with building bylaws.

Progress in 2019-20 Ministry

Goal 3

Government Goals



Ministry Goal

First Nations and Métis residents fully share in Saskatchewan's benefits and opportunities, and treaty and Aboriginal rights are respected.

Strategy

Encourage and support engagement and collaboration between First Nations, Métis people and all levels of government to advance mutually beneficial priorities.

Key Actions

Support and contribute to community-based reconciliation events and initiatives throughout the province.

- The ministry provided \$465,925 to support 27 sponsorship events and 11 engagement projects to support reconciliation events and innovative projects that benefit Indigenous people in Saskatchewan.
- The ministry provided \$73,000 to support four initiatives, including the Pinehouse Elders Gathering; a youth mentorship program; Northern Justice Symposium; and an engagement on Sandy Bay settlement about hydroelectric development.

Support partnerships between government, industry, agencies and First Nations and Métis communities which contribute to community wellness and vitality in the north.

- The ministry continues to provide ongoing northern support for mining jobs, mining and forestry engagement (Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee) and research (Community Vitality partnership).
- The ministry also provides strategic orientation at the Embracing Life Committee, assisting member agencies and community representatives, many of them youth volunteers, in developing strategies and local initiatives to improve community wellness.
- The ministry revised the Terms of Reference for the Embracing Life initiative, providing an enhanced focus on youth or community representation on the committee's executive and in strategic planning.

Administer and deliver services to communities in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District (NSAD) for the benefit of northern residents.

- The ministry continues to act as the local government authority for the NSAD, providing municipal administration, advisory services and land use planning. The NSAD is the northern area of Saskatchewan which includes approximately half of Saskatchewan's land area, but less than four per cent of the province's population. The NSAD's population of roughly 38,000 live in approximately 40 communities, which include incorporated municipalities and unincorporated areas.
- The ministry also administers the Northern Municipal Trust Account which invests in northern communities through programs such as the Northern Municipal Revenue Sharing program, Water and Sewer program, Northern Capital Grants program, Northern Residential Subdivision Development program and the Solid Waste Management program. These programs support safe, healthy and sustainable communities.

Strengthen Government of Saskatchewan's engagement with First Nations and Métis residents and representative organizations.

- The ministry published an internal guide called *Interest-based Engagement with Indigenous Clients*, which continues to support the capacity of government officials to engage with First Nation and Métis clients.
- The ministry facilitated meetings with two First Nations, working towards bilateral agreements with the Government of Saskatchewan to support their community's economic development and self-governance interests.

Strategy

Co-ordinate and support government-wide implementation of the Duty to Consult policy, Treaty Land Entitlement agreements and facilitate other agreements.

Key Actions

Negotiate new Treaty Land Entitlement Agreements with Canada and First Nations.

- The parties made progress on drafting a base agreement that can be used to make modifications based on individual preferences.

Develop and implement training sessions to build awareness of Saskatchewan's legal obligations related to Treaty Land Entitlement and Duty to Consult.

- Eleven internal Duty to Consult training sessions were held during 2019-20, with a total of 172 officials participating.
- The ministry also hosted 75 land claim information sessions in 2019-20.

Performance Measure Results

Number of events and projects supported through First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs grants

Supported projects assist in improving the lives of First Nations and Métis residents throughout Saskatchewan by helping to promote safe communities, strong families and improved education and economic development opportunities. Supported events benefit communities by assisting them to hold important public gatherings that help highlight the value of Indigenous cultures and education; recognize youth, elders and veterans; promote cultural understanding; improve community wellness and advance reconciliation.

- This past year, the ministry supported 42 events and projects through the allocation of \$539,000 of grant money.

Number of grants provided under the First Nations and Métis Consultation Policy Fund

This measure identifies the number of grants and amount of funding provided to support the participation of First Nation and Métis communities in consultations with government where a duty to consult is triggered. More grants reflect a greater level of participation, which facilitates relationships and informs government decisions.

- For the year of 2019-20, the ministry approved 70 grants for a total of \$415,000 to support the participation of First Nation and Métis communities in consultations with government where a duty to consult was triggered.

Financial Summary

Additional financial information can be found in the [Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts](#).

Financial Results

Expense:

The 2019-20 appropriation budget was \$623.2 million, which includes \$7.1 million for the Provincial Capital Commission. Actual expenditures were \$627.8 million. This represents an increase of \$4.6 million. Government Relations (GR) received a Special Warrant for \$18.9 million in February 2020. The Special Warrant included \$10.0 million for the mitigation of the impact of the phase out of coal-fired electricity and \$8.9 million to move tangible capital assets from Government Relations to the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA). The increase from budget primarily reflects:

- an increase for Gas Tax Program transfers (\$59.2 million);
- an increase for Public Safety Telecommunications Capital transfers (\$27.2 million);
- an increase for Provincial Municipal Support program transfers (\$9.5 million);
- an increase of transfers to the SPSA (\$7.1 million);
- an increase for Gaming Agreement payments (\$3.6 million);
- higher than anticipated claim and program administration costs for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (\$2.7 million);
- an increase for the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network (\$1.0 million); and,
- higher than anticipated First Nations and Métis transfers (\$0.2 million);

partially offset by:

- lower than anticipated infrastructure grant payments (\$100.9 million);
- net savings across the ministry, primarily due to vacancy management and operating savings (\$2.1 million);
- reduced prior year accounts receivable for Education Property Tax (EPT) revenue (\$0.3 million);
- lower than anticipated municipal transfers (\$0.8 million); and,
- lower than anticipated capital asset purchases (\$1.8 million).

Revenue:

The 2019-20 revenue budget was \$727.5 million. Actual revenue was \$834.8 million. This represents an increase of \$107.3 million over budget. This increase is primarily attributed to:

- an increase in revenue from the federal government for the Gas Tax Program (\$61.9 million);
- net increase in revenue from the federal government under Disaster Financial Assistance (\$31.3 million);
- an increase to reclassify a portion of EPT to grants-in-lieu (\$11.3 million);
- refunds to the General Revenue Fund, primarily for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program where actual claim amounts were lower than what was accrued in prior years (\$8.2 million);
- an increase for penalties and interest related to EPT (\$0.8 million);
- an increase to reclassify a portion of EPT revenue for trailer fees (\$0.6 million);
- an increase for EPT levy (\$0.3 million); and,
- miscellaneous revenue (\$0.1 million);

partially offset by:

- decreased net revenue to reflect reduced expenditures for infrastructure programs (\$7.2 million).

Full-Time Equivalents (FTE):

The 2019-20 full-time equivalent (FTE) utilization for the ministry was 215.5 FTEs.

Summary of Expenditures

The following table summarizes budgeted versus actual expenses by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than five per cent and \$100,000.

<i>In thousands of dollars</i>					
Subvote/Subprogram	2018-19 Actuals	2019-20 Budget	2019-20 Actuals	Variance Over/(Under)	Notes
Central Management and Services (GR01)	6,960	8,882	8,333	(549)	
Minister's Salary	52	50	54	4	
Executive Management	835	1,000	927	(73)	
Central Services	3,915	5,570	5,325	(245)	
Accommodations Services	2,158	2,262	2,027	(235)	1
First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs (GR12)	163,965	76,703	80,072	3,369	
First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs	8,083	3,728	3,323	(405)	2
Treaty Land Entitlement	77,738	335	326	(9)	
First Nations and Métis Consultation Participation Fund	492	200	357	157	3
Métis Development Fund	2,615	2,459	2,941	482	4
First Nations Gaming Agreements	75,037	69,981	73,125	3,144	
Municipal Relations (GR07)	429,794	516,659	482,092	(34,567)	
Urban Revenue Sharing	154,474	161,297	160,715	(582)	
Rural Revenue Sharing	68,184	71,715	71,774	59	
Northern Revenue Sharing	17,938	18,621	18,579	(42)	
New Building Canada Fund	36,374	107,320	51,323	(55,997)	5
Clean Water and Wastewater Fund	36,394	4,872	7,737	2,865	6
Public Transit Infrastructure Fund	7,323	1,591	845	(746)	7
Saskatoon North Commuter Parkway Bridge	15,000	-	-	-	
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	-	50,000	2,914	(47,086)	8
Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities	3,787	3,787	3,753	(34)	
Grants-in-Lieu of Property Taxes	13,056	13,400	13,174	(226)	
Provincial Municipal Support	319	496	10,005	9,509	9
Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency	10,538	11,388	11,388	-	
Municipal Relations	6,101	7,532	6,114	(1,418)	2,10
Gas Tax Program	60,288	64,550	123,717	59,167	11
Regional Planning Authorities	18	90	54	(36)	
Saskatchewan Municipal Board (GR06)	1,659	1,985	1,722	(263)	2
Public Safety (GR11)	19,555	11,901	47,503	35,602	
Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency	-	500	6,500	6,000	12
Emergency Management and Fire Safety	5,634	5,939	7,038	1,099	13
Building Standards and Licensing	907	870	1,179	309	14
Provincial Disaster Assistance Program	11,856	2,812	5,538	2,726	15
Public Safety Telecommunications	1,158	1,780	27,248	25,468	16
Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network (GR13)	-	-	979	979	17
Provincial Capital Commission (GR14)	-	7,118	7,118	-	
Total Appropriation	621,933	623,248	627,819	4,571	
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(1,642)	(2,180)	(201)	1,979	18
Capital Asset Amortization	3,036	3,054	23	(3,031)	19
Total Expense	623,327	624,122	627,641	3,519*	

*The ministry was able to over spend as a Special Warrant of \$18.9 million was received in February 2020.

Explanation of Major Variances:

1. Under-expenditure reflecting Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) accommodation costs in Government Relations' budget partially offset by leasehold improvements.
2. Vacancy management and miscellaneous operating under-expenditures.
3. Higher than anticipated activity.
4. Over-expenditure attributed to prior year reconciliation payments.
5. Under-expenditure attributed to delays in project approvals and contribution agreements not being finalized.
6. Over-expenditure reflecting costs shifted from previous years to the current year.
7. Under-expenditure reflecting decreased project costs in 2019-20.
8. Under-expenditure reflecting lower project costs in 2019-20 for the first year of this new program.
9. Over-expenditure reflecting transfers to municipalities for the mitigation of the impact of the phase out of coal-fired electricity.
10. Lower than anticipated capital spending.
11. Over-expenditure reflecting the top-up amount announced by the federal government.
12. Over-expenditure reflecting Sask911 pressures.
13. Over-expenditure reflecting one-time pressures.
14. Over-expenditure attributed to historic salary pressures and unanticipated operating spending.
15. Costs to provide disaster assistance to claimants for 2019 and prior year claim adjustments.
16. Over-expenditure reflecting costs associated with moving the net of assets and liabilities to the SPSA.
17. Over-expenditure attributed to the timing of recognizing revenue that was not completed before the SPSA was established.
18. Under-expenditure due to the transfer of the capital budget to the SPSA and due to lower than anticipated capital spending.
19. Amortization savings as a result of transferring tangible capital assets to the SPSA.

Summary of Revenues

The ministry's major revenue relates to Education Property Taxes (EPT) and agreements with the federal government. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. A summary of the ministry's 2019-20 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than \$100,000.

<i>In thousands of dollars</i>				
Revenue Category	2019-2020 Budget	2019-2020 Actual	Variance Over/(Under)	Notes
Property Taxes	640,700	640,951	251	
Education Property Taxes	640,700	640,951	251	1
Other Enterprise and Funds	350	1,928	1,578	
SaskBuilds – Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	-	1,923	1,923	2
Sask911	350	5	(345)	3
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	-	596	596	
Penalties – Taxes	-	596	596	4
Other Licences and Permits	1,050	1,829	779	
Subdivision Fees	662	598	(64)	
Licencing Fees	388	570	182	5
Other Rental and Leases	-	661	661	6
Sales, Services and Service Fees	75	233	158	
Debenture Authorization	40	42	2	
Miscellaneous Services	5	3	(2)	
Other Service Fees	30	182	152	7
Documentation, Searches and Legal Services	-	5	5	
Freedom of Information	-	1	1	
Interest, Premium, Discount and Exchange	-	218	218	
Interest- Taxes	-	218	218	8
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	19,531	19,531	
Refunds – Previous Year's Expenditures	-	8,172	8,172	9
Casual/Other Revenue	-	11,359	11,359	10
Other Federal/Provincial Agreements	85,353	171,437	86,084	
Gas Tax Program	62,571	124,490	61,919	11
New Building Canada Fund	17,943	7,749	(10,194)	12
Clean Water and Wastewater Fund	3,248	5,096	1,848	13
Public Transit Infrastructure Fund	1,591	795	(796)	14
Disaster Mitigation Assessment Reimbursement	-	112	112	15
Disaster Financial Assistance	-	31,272	31,272	16
Total Revenue	727,528	834,800	107,272	

Explanation of Major Variances:

1. Increased revenue attributed higher than anticipated assessment growth.
2. Increased revenue as the result of recognizing Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program revenue from SaskBuilds.
3. Decreased revenue attributed to the revenue being recognized by the SPSA.
4. Penalties collected on EPT.
5. Higher than anticipated gas and electrical licencing fees.
6. Reclassification of a portion of EPT revenue for trailer fees.
7. Increased revenue attributed to a higher number of appeals received.
8. Interest collected on EPT.
9. Increased revenue primarily attributed to actual Provincial Disaster Assistance Program claims being lower than what was previously accrued in prior years.
10. Reclassification of a portion of EPT revenue to grants-in-lieu.
11. Increased revenue attributed to the top-up amount announced by the federal government.
12. Reduced revenue reflecting reduced expenditures for the Small Communities Fund.
13. Increased revenue reflecting increased expenditures for the program.
14. Reduced revenue reflecting reduced expenditures for the program.
15. Revenue received from the federal government for costs associated with disaster mitigation projects.
16. Net increase in revenue from the federal government under Disaster Financial Assistance recognized as a result of disaster events from 2019 and previous years.

Appendix A: Acts & Regulations

Acts and Regulations

The Minister of Government Relations, who is also the Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs, is assigned the administration of the following Acts and Regulations, except insofar as another minister is assigned the administration of the Act:

- *The Amusement Ride Safety Act*
 - *The Amusement Ride Safety Regulations, 2017*
- *The Assessment Appraisers Act*
 - *The Assessment Appraisers Regulations*
- *The Assessment Management Agency Act*
 - *The Assessment Management Agency Regulations*
- *The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Act, 1999*
 - *The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Regulations, 2017*
- *The Border Areas Act*
- *The Cities Act*
 - *The Cities Regulations*
- *The City of Lloydminster Act*
- *The Community Planning Profession Act, 2013*
- *The Education Property Tax Act*
 - *The Education Property Tax Regulations*
- *The Electrical Licensing Act*
 - *The Electrical Licensing Regulations*
- *The Emergency 911 System Act*
 - *The Public Safety Answering Point Regulations, 2011*
- *The Emergency Services Telecommunication Program Regulations*
- *The Fire Safety Act*
 - *The Fire Safety Regulations*
- *The Flin-Flon Extension of Boundaries Act, 1952*
- *The Gas Licensing Act*
 - *The Gas Licensing Regulations*
- *The Government Relations Administration Act*
 - *except with respect to clause 3(1)(c) which is jointly assigned to the Minister of Government Relations and the Minister of the Economy.*
 - *except with respect to subsection 3(2) which is jointly assigned to the Minister of the Economy and the Minister responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs*
- *The Indian and Native Affairs Act*
 - *except clause 7(b) which is jointly assigned to the Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs and the Minister of the Economy.*
- *The Lloydminster Charter (Saskatchewan)*
- *The Local Government Election Act, 2015*
 - *The Local Government Election Regulations, 2015*
- *The Local Improvements Act, 1993*

- *The Local Improvements Forms Regulations, 1991*
- *The Métis Act*
- *The Municipal Board Act*
 - *The Saskatchewan Municipal Board Fees Regulations*
 - *The Saskatchewan Municipal Board Member Qualification Regulations, 2003*
- *The Municipal Expropriation Act*
- *The Municipal Grants Act*
 - *The Municipal Grants Regulations*
- *The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act*
 - *The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Regulations, 2017*
- *The Municipalities Act*
 - *The Municipalities Regulations*
- *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010*
 - *The Northern Municipalities Regulations*
- *The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act*
 - *The Passenger and Freight Elevator Regulations, 2017*
- *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*
 - *The Subdivision Regulations, 2014*
 - *The Dedicated Lands Regulations, 2009*
 - *The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations*
- *The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program Regulations, 2011*
- *The Rural Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act, but only with respect to:*
 - *Part III.01; and*
 - *the powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on the Minister of Government Relations and the Minister of Finance pursuant to Part III.1*
- *The Saskatchewan Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (Treaty Land Entitlement) Act*
 - *The Saskatchewan Natural Resources Transfer Agreement (Treaty Land Entitlement) Regulations*
- *The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency Act*
- *The Tax Enforcement Act*
 - *The Tax Enforcement Regulations, 2015*
- *The Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan Act*
- *The Time Act*
 - *The Time Act General Regulations*
- *The Treaty Land Entitlement Implementation Act*
- *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act*
 - *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Regulations*
 - *The Building and Accessibility Standards Administration Regulations*
- *The Urban Municipal Administrators Act*
- *The Urban Municipality Act, 1984*