

Business Plan

2022-23

MINISTRY OF PARKS, CULTURE AND SPORT

Saskatchewan! 

Statement from the Minister



The Honourable Laura Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport

I am pleased to present the Parks, Culture and Sport Business Plan for 2022-23.

The Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport invests in programs and activities that directly contribute to the quality of life and wellbeing of Saskatchewan people, as well as support the provincial economy as it grows past pre-pandemic levels.

Across the Ministry we continue to improve our visitor experiences through capital investments and enhanced program offerings. During the pandemic we saw record-breaking visitation at our provincial parks, which provided safe recreational spaces where our residents could enjoy our beautiful province. We are once again making significant capital investments in our park system to upgrade facilities, roadways, and service centres to meet customer expectations. Meanwhile, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum is opening its latest exhibit “Home: Life in the Anthropocene”, which is sure to engage new and frequent visitors alike.

We will continue to make investments aimed at enhancing our overall quality of life. That includes supporting the Active Families Benefit, the Community Rink Affordability Grant, and the Saskatchewan Veterans Service Club Support Program. We will also invest in programs that enhance French language and protect heritage in our province.

This Ministry also will support the Status of Women Office, which serves to raise awareness of issues affecting women, including increasing economic prosperity and eliminating interpersonal violence and abuse, paving the way for a safer, more equitable future for all Saskatchewan residents.

Finally, our Ministry is uniquely positioned to assist with the province’s economic recovery by supporting Saskatchewan industries through additional funding being provided to the Creative Saskatchewan Production Grant. By increasing funding to \$10 million, we expect to see additional economic activity across the province. The grant money will stay in Saskatchewan, with the added film production making a lasting impact on our growing IT and digital sectors, the struggling hospitality industry, and all of the families they support.

Our progress will be reported in the 2022-23 annual report.

2022-23 Budget Highlights

1	<p>Ongoing commitment to deliver platform promises to enhance quality of life:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$4.0M for the Active Family Benefit for children's sports, arts and cultural activities. It is estimated that 20,500 families annually will claim the tax credit for approximately 34,000 children and youth in Saskatchewan with 3,000 children being eligible for the additional disability component of the tax credit.• \$1.7M for the Community Rink Affordability Grant to offset the cost of operations and provide minor capital grants for 600 community-owned indoor skating and curling rinks; and• \$1.5M to the Veterans Service Support Club Program to support at least 60 projects including infrastructure upgrades, programs, events and activities, including facility updates to promote the health and safety of the public due to the pandemic.
2	<p>\$8.0M increase for Creative Saskatchewan film and television grants to support Saskatchewan production companies working to produce a feature film or TV production.</p>
3	<p>\$700K increase (\$4.7M total) for the Community Initiatives Fund, returning to the Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation revenue sharing formula. This benefits more than 400 community-based groups that deliver programming in healthy growth and development of children and youth; individual and community wellbeing; and non-profit and community leadership.</p>
4	<p>Investing over \$12.5M for Parks Capital Projects to address maintenance, upgrade requirements and improve visitor experiences throughout the provincial park system, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• new boat launch facilities;• upgrades to roadways;• investment in water and wastewater systems; and• maintenance and upgrades to recreational facilities and service centers.
5	<p>Continued funding for the development and installation of new exhibits at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM).</p>
6	<p>Continued funding for the ongoing implementation of the Online Client Services Initiative to reduce client costs, streamline work process, reduce red-tape, and decrease service timelines in the heritage approval process for development in Saskatchewan.</p>

Response to Government Direction

Saskatchewan is back on track. The Government of Saskatchewan is protecting and strengthening our province, carefully managing spending while investing in priority programs and services and into a strong and growing economy. Government is helping build a better Saskatchewan, investing in needed infrastructure – hospitals, schools, highways and municipal and crown capital projects.

Saskatchewan's financial picture is improving, with a fiscal plan to return the budget to balance. The resurgent economy helps ensure the services, programs and infrastructure Saskatchewan people value are sustainable today and into the future. Saskatchewan is back on track.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"...to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."

>> Government Goals

A Strong Economy

Strong Communities

Strong Families

Saskatchewan's vision and three goals provide the strategic direction for organizations to align their programs and services to build a strong Saskatchewan.

All organizations will report on progress in their 2022-23 annual reports.

Mandate

The ministry's strategic focus is on quality of life and economic growth. The ministry works with diverse groups and communities to enhance the province's cultural, artistic, recreational, and social life; to promote excellence in the arts, culture, heritage, and sport; and to represent the interests of the province's French-language population. The ministry manages and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum; conserves ecosystems and cultural resources; and provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park and museum visitors.

Mission

Contribute to Saskatchewan's high quality of life, instill pride, and enhance economic growth through management of the Saskatchewan provincial parks system and Royal Saskatchewan Museum; the provision of arts, culture, recreation, sport, and tourism opportunities; access to French-language services; and through stewardship of provincial heritage resources.

The ministry is also home to the Status of Women Office.

Goal 1: Provide high quality visitor experiences

Ongoing enhancements to programs, services and infrastructure in provincial parks and the RSM are necessary to build compelling and meaningful experiences that inspire new and repeat visitation. These spaces are vital contributors to tourism and the economy, bringing significant tourist spending to communities around the province. They support strong communities and strong families by providing spaces for people to socially connect, relax and revitalize, enjoy healthful recreation, and learn about the province's natural and cultural history, all of which have a profound effect on the physical and emotional well-being of citizens.

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Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Offer programs and services that are relevant to citizens

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Work with the private sector to facilitate renewal, expansion, and development of new recreational services in parks.
- Maintain natural landscapes and create safe public spaces within core areas of provincial parks.
- Promote provincial parks as year-round destinations and encourage use through targeted winter programming and recreational opportunities.
- Conduct citizen research to expand and improve programs and services and attract new people to the parks.
- Implement the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) four-year rolling exhibit and programming plan.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Invest in infrastructure to meet client demands

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Investment of \$9.0M to maintain and renew park infrastructure to reduce the total infrastructure deficit.
- Investment of \$3.5M to expand park infrastructure to respond to growing park visitor demands for camping, recreational and cultural opportunities.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

Satisfaction with Saskatchewan provincial park visits

Target: More than 85 per cent of visitors to Saskatchewan provincial park are satisfied with their visit in 2022-23

Number of camping permit nights in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Target: More than 410,000 camping permit nights sold in provincial parks in 2022-23.

Number of entry permit days in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Target: 1M entry permit days issued in provincial parks in 2022-23.

Number of visitors to the RSM

Target: 100,000 visitors to the RSM by March 31, 2023 (Targets for visitation have been modified to reflect the ongoing pandemic recovery).

Number of visitors to the T.rex Discovery Centre

Target: 10,000 visitors to the T.rex Discovery Centre by March 31, 2023 (Targets for visitation have been modified to reflect the ongoing pandemic recovery).

Goal 2: Protect Saskatchewan's park lands and heritage

The ministry invests in provincial parks and the RSM. These investments ensure Saskatchewan's historic resources and cultural artifacts are preserved and available for research and education purposes.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Improve preservation, conservation and management of heritage collections, data and resources

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Manage heritage data through maintenance of the Provincial Property Designation Program and provincial heritage databases.
- Planning and implementation of the Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) Online Client Service Initiative.
- Develop options for enhanced preservation and management of the RSM's expanding research and heritage collections.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Improve the health of provincial park ecosystems and cultural resources

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Improve our understanding of the state and condition of park ecosystems through ecosystem planning and implementation of a database to monitor ecosystem health and integrity.
- Improve the quality of ecosystem integrity through active management measures such as tree planting, invasive species treatment and forest harvesting.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

Average HCB response time for development project applications

Target: Achieve 21 days for HCB to respond to development project applications by March 31, 2023.

Number of provincial parks managed by ecosystem-based management plans

Target: Seven of the 12 natural environment provincial parks are managed by ecosystem-based management plans by March 31, 2023.

Goal 3: Connect citizens to culture, French language, heritage, science, sport, recreation and nature

The ministry provides direct programming and supports partner organizations to offer programs to reduce barriers and increase access to sport, culture, heritage and recreation programs in all geographic areas of the province. These programs contribute to building stronger families and vibrant communities in which to live, work and play.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Increase engagement, inclusion, access, and economic opportunities

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Deliver on platform commitments including: \$1.5M Saskatchewan Veteran Service Club Support Program, \$1.7M Community Rink Affordability Grant and \$4.0M Active Families Benefit.
- Strategically invest \$27.639M in arts, culture, and heritage opportunities with sector partners including Creative Saskatchewan, SK Arts, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, Western Development Museum, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, and Saskatchewan Science Centre.
- Support community investments through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund and the Community Initiatives Fund to strengthen the capacity of communities to deliver quality sports, culture, recreation, and physical activity programs and services.
- Work with federal, provincial, and territorial partners to advance sport, physical activity, culture and recreation initiatives, including support for the implementation of the Common Vision for Physical Activity and the Framework for Recreation, as well as the renewal of the Canada Sport Policy.
- Enhance delivery of French language support services including translation service to ministries, Crown corporations and agencies, and provide citizens with a single window to access French language services of the Government of Saskatchewan.
- Attract new visitors to the provincial parks and the RSM through new and targeted initiatives, such as recreational, educational, and cultural programs, services, and events.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Increase knowledge and awareness

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Support Wanuskewin Heritage Park's application to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Provide heritage regulatory and capacity-building services to assist property owners, land developers and communities.
- Expand engagement with Indigenous communities to increase the inclusiveness of the Saskatchewan Geographic Names Program.
- Conduct and facilitate scientific research at the RSM and promote discoveries made by RSM researchers.
- Use the Saskatchewaner program to build awareness of ministry programs, events, and stakeholder engagements through its social channels.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

Support the capacity and accountability of government-funded organizations

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Provide governance training options for appointees to third party boards, and support expertise sharing and communities of practices with third parties.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

Percentage of inquiries responded to by the French-language Services Centre

Target: 100 per cent of inquiries made to the French-language Service Centre will be responded to within 48 hours.

Number of projects supported through the Saskatchewan Veteran Service Club Support Program

Target: Support at least 65 projects by March 31, 2023.

Number of ice surfaces supported through the Community Rink Affordability Grant

Target: 600 ice surfaces supported by March 31, 2023.

Percentage of Agency board members and senior staff trained per year in public sector governance

Target: 50% of eligible board members trained in public sector governance by March 31, 2023.

Status of Women's Office

Mandate

The Status of Women Office is the sole branch in government that reports on the status of women. The Office acts as a catalyst within government to raise awareness of issues affecting women to ensure gender considerations are integrated into government-policy making, legislation and program development.

Mission

Contribute to enhancing Saskatchewan's economic growth and high quality of life by identifying and addressing issues affecting women through research and facilitation of partnerships across government and throughout communities.

Goals: Increase women's economic prosperity and eliminate interpersonal violence and abuse in Saskatchewan

Supporting women's economic engagement contributes to increased economic growth and competitiveness for the Saskatchewan economy. The Status of Women Office supports this goal through collaboration across government and with community partners to address barriers and increase women's participation in the economy. To secure safe communities and a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people, the Status of Women Office contributes to the goal of eliminating interpersonal violence and abuse through collaborative partnerships focused on the reduction and prevention of gender-based violence.

Strategy: *The approach we will take to achieve our goal*

The Status of Women Office does not deliver programs and services to Saskatchewan residents. Instead, the Status of Women Office works within government and with partners across the province to identify and address topics affecting women.

Key Actions: *What we will do to get there*

- Work with internal and external stakeholders to ensure topics affecting women are considered in government decision-making.
- Conduct research and identify priority areas of concern for Saskatchewan women.
- Focus on awareness activities in targeted areas such as interpersonal violence and abuse, women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and women entrepreneurs.

Performance Measures: *What success looks like*

Economic prosperity: These measures capture the economic participation of women in Saskatchewan.

Performance Indicators include:

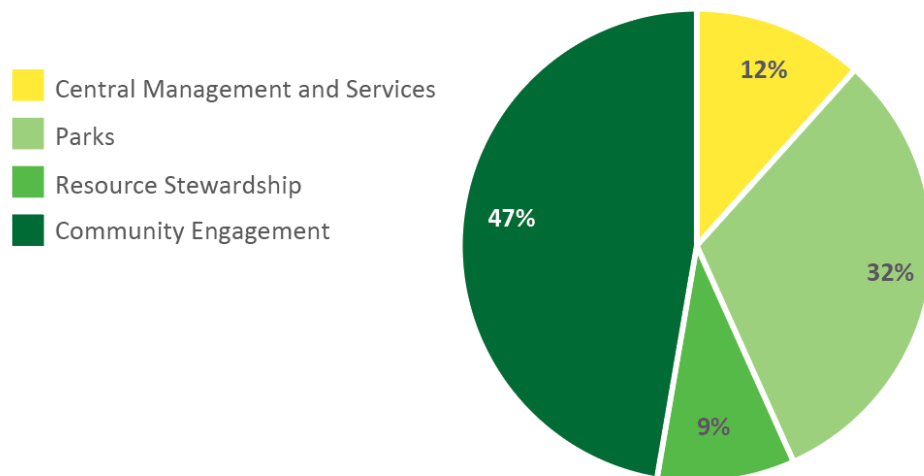
- The employment rate of Saskatchewan women.
- The average weekly earnings of Saskatchewan women.
- The employment rate of Saskatchewan Indigenous women.

Interpersonal Violence and Abuse: Engagement on the Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Public Awareness Campaign.

Target: 2,500 engagements and 4 million video views on social channels.

Financial Summary

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport 2022-23 Estimates (\$78 million)		(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services		\$9,753
Parks		\$26,430
Resource Stewardship		\$7,866
Community Engagement		\$39,539
Ministry Appropriation		\$83,588
Capital Asset Acquisitions		(\$11,565)
Asset Retirement Obligations		(\$850)
Non-appropriated Expense Adjustment		\$6,383
Total Expense		\$77,556



Links to More Information

- [Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport](#)
- [Government of Saskatchewan Budget, Planning and Reporting](#)