

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

Annual Report for 2021-22

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Letters of Transmittal

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022. Government Direction and Budget 2021-22 focused on record investments in health care, education, social services, and the protection of people and property.

PCS continues to build Saskatchewan by offering opportunities for residents to enjoy a high quality of life, improve their wellbeing and support economic growth.

Saskatchewan's Provincial Parks saw record visitation in 2021-22 and visitor satisfaction remains high. We continue to invest in many capital improvements across the park system to improve visitor experience even further.

The Royal Saskatchewan Museum continues to captivate audiences young and old with the history of our province, conducting internationally renowned research and working on its newest exhibit, Home: Life in the Anthropocene, which opened this spring.

The Status of Women Office (SWO) continues to work with its partners across government to increase women's economic prosperity and eliminate interpersonal violence and abuse in Saskatchewan, including launching phase two of the Face the Issue Campaign, which is translated in Cree, Dene and French.

Numerous strategies continue to increase knowledge and awareness of culture and French language, protect heritage and natural resources for future generations, and support sport and recreation in our province. Participation in sports, culture and recreation activities ensures strong, healthy families in Saskatchewan.

This report outlines the progress on all initiatives set forward in the 2021-22 Business Plan.



Laura Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women



The Honourable Laura
Ross
Minister of Parks,
Culture and Sport;
Minister Responsible
for the Status of
Women

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

Throughout the pandemic, our provincial parks provided safe spaces for Saskatchewan residents to get out and enjoy the natural beauty that this province has to offer. This year we were hard at work with a robust capital investment program to improve visitor experience, a new modernized reservation system for our customers, and also expanded programming offerings that included more winter activities and camping.

The Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) saw a strong return of visitors when it was able to open its doors after pandemic restrictions lifted, while the T.rex Discovery Centre in Eastend saw record visitation.



Twyla MacDougall
Deputy Minister of
Parks, Culture and
Sport

Our ministry continued to support a range of sports, arts, and heritage activities that ensure healthy, vibrant communities. This includes aid for veterans, their families and communities with a robust support program. We acknowledge the importance of sport and recreation and their direct link to mental and physical wellbeing and continue to support families and communities through the Community Rink Affordability Grant and the Active Family Benefits Program.

We are also home to the Status of Women's Office, which works to raise issues affecting women in the province, including its efforts on the Face the Issue campaign. This campaign began in 2020 and aims to educate the public and inspire conversations and actions that will help reduce violence and abuse in Saskatchewan. I acknowledge responsibility for the ministry's financial administration and reporting, and ensure the information contained within this report is complete, accurate and reliable.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Twyla MacDougall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "M".

Twyla MacDougall
Deputy Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport

Ministry Overview

Our 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 represent the interests of the province's French-language population. The ministry manages and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system, conserves ecosystems and cultural resources, and provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park visitors.

Our Mission Statement

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

Service Delivery System

The ministry's actual Full-time Equivalent (FTE) utilization was 463.8.

The ministry participates in several federal/provincial/territorial initiatives related to parks, culture, French language, heritage, recreation, sport, and the status of women. This involvement encourages knowledge exchange, informs policy and program development and partnerships with other jurisdictions and other government agencies.

The strategic lines of business within the ministry are organized into two divisions, Parks and Stewardship.

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

The ministry's one-year operational plan for 2021-22 can be found at:

<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/api/v1/products/112414/formats/126412/download>

Progress in 2021-22

Ministry Goal 1

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Ministry Goal

Provide high quality visitor experiences

Strategy

Enhance visitor programs and service delivery

Key Actions

- Conduct citizen research to continuously improve our programs and services and attract new people to the parks.
 - Visitor experience surveys were completed throughout the summer season, allowing the ministry to make in-season adjustments, and at the end of the season to inform decision-making on future programs and services.
 - Visitors and prospective visitors were also surveyed to better understand visitor motivations and opportunities to improve future visitor experiences, programs, activities and service offerings during the shoulder and winter seasons.
- Work with the private sector to facilitate renewal, expansion and development of new recreational services in parks.
 - In 2021-22, the ministry tendered and/or awarded several new experiences in provincial parks, including:
 - Mobile food service and barbeque competition at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park.
 - Paragliding lessons at Blackstrap Provincial Park.
 - Wellness retreats at Pike Lake and Candle Lake Provincial Parks.
 - Sailing rentals and lessons at Elbow Harbour Recreational Site.
 - Astrophotography lessons at Cypress Hills and Pike Lake Provincial Parks.
 - Shuttle service to the Boreal Trail at Meadow Lake Provincial Park.
 - Petting zoo/pony rides at Pike Lake Provincial Park.
 - Haunted Halloween Hike at Pike Lake Provincial Park.
 - Mini golf at Blackstrap, Crooked Lake and Douglas Provincial Parks.
 - Inflatable waterparks at Candle Lake and Meadow Lake Provincial Parks.
 - Equipped camping units (trailer rentals) at The Battlefords Provincial Park.
 - Rental accommodations at Meadow Lake and Good Spirit Lake Provincial Parks.
 - Long-term seasonal campground at Duck Mountain Provincial Park.

- The ministry was able to continue working with the private sector to provide new winter experience offerings.
 - Two new food providers offered services this winter at Duck Mountain and Candle Lake Provincial Parks.
 - Dog sledding was offered at Makwa Lake Provincial Park.
 - The ministry also worked with two existing lessees - to provide food service from the Echo Valley Visitor Centre and an ice fishing experience at Blackstrap Provincial Park.
- Maintain natural and create safe public spaces within core areas of provincial parks.
 - 75,593 seedlings, liner stock, and acorns have been planted to date in core areas of provincial parks.
 - The ministry procured and delivered additional Life Jacket loaner stations for Makwa Lake, Cypress Hills, Great Blue Heron, Candle Lake and Blackstrap Provincial Parks. As a result, there are now 21 lifejacket loaner stations throughout Provincial Parks.
 - Outdoor AED Cabinets have been installed at most park locations providing 24-7 public access.
- Promote provincial parks as year-round destinations and encourage use through targeted winter programming and recreational opportunities.
 - Successfully piloted promotion codes during non-peak times to further promote shoulder season and off-season visitation and tested different types of promotions (discount per night vs buy one, get one free BOGO) at two parks for weekday stays in July and August.
 - Winter activities included snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, tobogganing, skating, ice-maze walk, Festival of Lights, ice fishing, fat-tire bike trails, candle-lit skis, toboggan luge track, crokicurl, picnicking and winter hikes. Park Activity Kits were available at all locations and food services were available in some locations. Increased guided interpretive programming was offered at most locations and included guided snowshoe hikes, astronomy programming, and indoor craft activities.
 - Online winter camping reservations were offered for the first time ever at seven provincial parks, and winter programming and events were offered at six provincial parks. These and other activities attracted more than 12,000 days by visitor parties throughout the shoulder/winter season.
- Attract and maintain visitation to the RSM through the implementation of a four-year rolling exhibit and programming plan.
 - The RSM completed exhibit construction and opened the new SaskTel Learning Lab in October 2021 and is offering live programming.
 - The RSM completed construction of a new exhibit, Home: Life in the Anthropocene, and has a scheduled opening for early 2022-23.
 - ⊖ Renewal options for the RSM Research, Exhibits and Collections (REC) Facility were developed in partnership with SaskBuilds and Procurement (SBP). A go forward plan is anticipated in 2022-23.
 - A new agreement was signed with the Friends of the RSM, ensuring an appropriate division of funds from donations between the Friends and the RSM to support exhibit improvements.
 - The RSM partnered with Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) and the Friends of the RSM to deliver a four-part Indigenous Solstice Speaker Series sponsored by SGI.
- Improve customer service (both in-person and online) to meet visitor expectations at our parks and museum.
 - Parks carried out online customer service and new reservation system training for over 130 staff to help support high levels of visitor satisfaction.
 - Additional digital services were provided through the new reservation system to improve access and ease of use for park visitors. New features include rec hall, daily and weekly entry, backcountry camping, event/ticket registration, camping this weekend.
 - Successfully implemented a new campground management and reservation system which processed over 210,000 transactions and contributed to Sask Park's busiest season on record.

- The RSM set up a new online reservation system used when visitation was limited and has expanded its use to manage booking for major events such as the Solstice Speaker Series, Home Gala and other events.
- The RSM redesigned the main entrance to allow us to introduce ourselves to visitors and explain our services to them, while welcoming them with a smile.

Strategy

Invest in infrastructure to meet client demands

Key Actions

- Maintain and renew park infrastructure to reduce the total infrastructure deficit.
 - Several parks capital improvements were completed in 2021-22 through the base capital program. Highlights include:
 - Potable water system upgrades at Meadow Lake and Candle Lake Parks and wastewater system upgrades at Rowans Ravine.
 - New maintenance buildings at Makwa and Great Blue Heron Parks.
 - New campground service centres at The Battlefords and Saskatchewan Landing Parks.
 - Final phase of refurbishing Holy Trinity Church at Stanley Mission, Lac La Ronge Provincial Park.
 - A new boat launch development at Stanley Mission, Lac la Ronge Provincial Park.
 - Another \$4 million in park road improvements was provided through the Ministry of Highways, in conjunction with planned work on highways leading to parks in seven locations.
- Expand park infrastructure to respond to growing park visitor demands for camping, recreational and cultural opportunities.
 - The addition of \$7.3 million in stimulus funding allowed the ministry to complete and design several additional facility and infrastructure improvements across the Provincial Park system in 2021-22. This record level of investment provided much-needed infrastructure upgrades as well as several new facilities to enhance service to park visitors. Highlights include:
 - Redevelopment of Pine Hill Campground with a new service centre at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.
 - New group pavilions at Buffalo Pound, Echo Valley, Pike Lake and Blackstrap Provincial Parks.
 - A new visitor reception centre at Saskatchewan Landing and visitor centre for Buffalo Pound Park.
 - Natural Playground developments at Duck Mountain and Great Blue Heron Provincial Parks.
 - Accessibility improvements at Duck Mountain, Echo Valley, Rowan's Ravine and Great Blue Heron Provincial Parks.

Performance Measure Results

Satisfaction with Saskatchewan provincial park visits

Measure Target: More than 85 per cent of visitors to Saskatchewan provincial parks are satisfied with their visit in 2021-22.

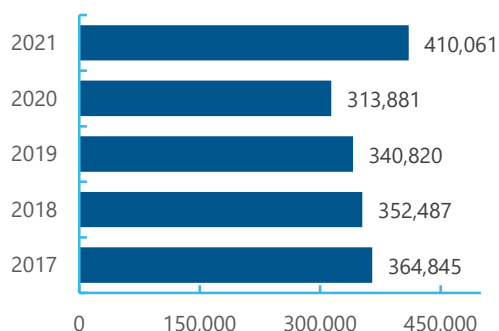
Measure Result: 93 per cent of visitors were satisfied with their visit in 2021, which exceeded the target.



Number of camping permit nights in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Measure Target: More than 313,881 camping permit nights sold in provincial parks in 2021-22

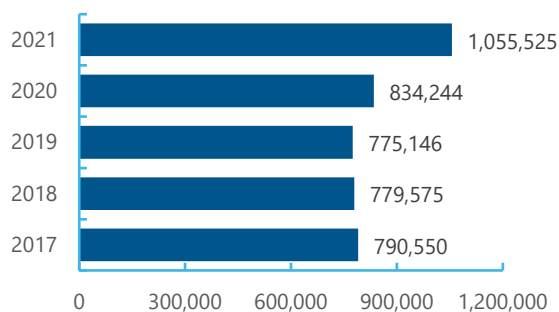
Measure Result: 410,061 Camping permit nights sold in provincial parks in 2021-22. This includes 512 camping permit nights for shoulder/winter season. Camping Permit Nights have surpassed the previous record in 2016, setting an all-time high with more than 400,000 nights. The ministry now tracks camping permit nights and entry permit days in place of number of visitor days. Camping permit nights reflect the number of nights campsites were occupied.



Number of entry permit days in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Measure Target: More than 834,244 entry permit days issued in provincial parks in 2021-22

Measure Result: 1,055,525 entry permit days issued in 2021-22 provincial parks. Entry Permit Days have surpassed 2020 numbers setting an all-time high with more than one million entry days. Entry permit days reflect the number of days a party visits a provincial park, including both day and overnight visits. This measure now includes permit sales for all 12 months of the year.



Note: The ministry now tracks camping permit nights and entry permit days in place of number of visitor days.

Number of visitors to the RSM

Measure Target: 60,000 visitors to the RSM by March 31, 2022

Measure Result: 68,908 RSM visitors in 2021-22. The ministry was prepared and adapted well to a strong return of visitors to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum despite being closed for the first two months of fiscal 2021-22, operating with multiple visitation restrictions.



Number of visitors to the T.rex Discovery Centre

Measure Target: 6,000 visitors to the T.rex Discovery Centre by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: 12,250 T.rex Discovery visitors in 2021-22. Visitation surpassed expectations, achieving a new record, surpassing the previous best of 10,400 in 2018.



Note: Targets for RSM and T.rex Discovery visitation were modified to reflect the ongoing pandemic restrictions for public facilities.

Progress in 2021-22

Ministry Goal 2

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Ministry Goal

Protect Saskatchewan's park lands and heritage

Strategy

Improve conservation and management of heritage data and resources

Key Actions

- Manage the Provincial Heritage Property Designation Program.
 - One new Provincial Heritage Property, Lower Hudson House, was designated, bringing the total number of properties to 56.
 - Discussions continue with four additional property owners who have expressed interest in Provincial Heritage Property Designation.
 - The ministry reviewed and approved 13 permits for alterations to provincial heritage properties.
- Maintain and develop provincial heritage databases.
 - A review and update of approximately 7,500 geographic coordinates associated with approved geographic names in the province was completed and filed in the ministry's Geographic Names database.
 - The archaeological data verification project has reviewed database records of Sites of Special Nature for accuracy and consistency and the database has been updated.
- Planning and implementation for Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) Online Client Service Initiative.
 - Selection of vendor for project execution is in final stages with SBP.
 - Implementation of this project will help to support a reduction in turnaround times for processing development project applications.

Strategy

Improve the preservation and management of heritage collections

Key Actions

- Mitigate risks associated with the RSM's research and collections.
 - RSM continued to work with SBP to resolve longstanding infrastructure deficit and risks to research, exhibits and collections facilities.
 - Renewal options for the main RSM research, exhibit and collections facility (the RSM Annex) have been developed.

Strategy

Improve the health of provincial ecosystems and cultural resources

Key Actions

- Improve our understanding of the state and condition of park ecosystems.
 - Grassland Management Plan for Douglas/Danielson and area is complete; follow-up implementation will be required. Moose Mountain Provincial Park Ecosystem-Based Management Plan is complete and now in the process of public consultation and aboriginal engagement.
 - Parks Ecosystem Database is substantially complete and will continue to be used and updated for annual prioritization and five-year performance measurement.
- Improve the quality of ecosystem integrity through active management measures such as tree planting, invasive species treatment and forest harvesting.
 - Annual operating plans for grazing nearly 35,000 hectares in 10 parks/rec sites reviewed and approved.
 - Herbicide application to roughly 100 hectares across eight parks to control priority noxious weed sites.
 - Grassland restoration projects in three parks ongoing.
 - 16,920 trees planted in backcountry.
 - Forest renewal was undertaken at Duck Mountain Provincial Park and Meadow Lake Provincial Park.

Performance Measure Results

Average Heritage Conservation Branch response time for development project applications

Measure Target: Average 21 days for HCB to respond to development project applications by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: Average 29 days for HCB to respond to development project applications. For 2021-22 the average response time for HCB to respond to development project applications is 29 days. Response times are up largely due to an increase in the number of development submissions received.



Number of provincial parks managed by ecosystem-based management plans

Measure Target: Six of the 12 natural environment parks are managed by ecosystem-based management plans by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: Six natural environment parks being managed by ecosystem-based management plans in 2021-22. In 2021-22, ecosystem-based management plans were completed for Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park and Meadow Lake Provincial Park.



Progress in 2021-22

Ministry Goal 3

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Ministry Goal

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

Strategy

Increase engagement, inclusion, access and economic opportunities

Key Actions

- Deliver the Saskatchewan Veterans Service Club Support Program.
 - Saskatchewan Veterans Service Club Support Program budget of \$1.5 million for 2021-22. After three intakes, a total of \$1.45 million was allocated to 80 project and 49 operational grants.
- Deliver the Community Rink Affordability Grant Program
 - Community Rink Affordability Grant budget of \$1.7 million for 2021-22. Applications were accepted between October 15, 2021 and January 15, 2022. \$2,500 available per indoor ice surface. This year \$1,482, 500 was allocated to support 593 ice surfaces.
- Implement the Active Families Benefit
 - The *Active Families Benefit Act* was established in 2021-22. The program allocated \$4 million for 2021-22 to increase participation in sports, culture, and recreation activities for families with an annual income of less than \$60,000, up to \$150 per year, per child or \$200 per year for children who are eligible for the federal Child Disability Tax Credit.
- Strategically invest in arts, culture, sport, physical activity, and recreation opportunities with sector partners.
 - The ministry provided funding to ensure Saskatchewan cultural representation at Frankfurt Book Fair 2021.
 - The ministry also partnered with ParticipACTION to promote physical activity in Saskatchewan.
 - The ministry is committed to supporting our stakeholders in the arts, culture, sport, physical activity and recreation sectors and provided supplementary funding from the 2021-22 budget in the amount of \$520,311, with funding going to 14 different groups.
- Invest in Creative Saskatchewan and the creative sector to showcase and bring our province's creative talent and culture products to market.
 - In 2021-22, the ministry invested \$7.314 million in Creative Saskatchewan, driving economic benefits and revitalization to the film and television industry and hospitality sector.

- Invest in Saskatchewan Arts Board to enrich community well-being, diversity, and artistic prosperity through the arts.
 - SK Arts received \$6.61 million in funding in 2021-22 to enrich community well-being, diversity, and artistic prosperity through the arts.
- Support community investments through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund and the Community Initiatives Fund to strengthen capacity of communities to deliver quality sports, culture and recreation programs and services.
 - The ministry continued to facilitate gaming profit distribution arrangements through the Community Initiatives Fund and the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund.
 - The Community Initiatives Fund celebrated its 25th Anniversary and approved 463 community-based grants worth approximately \$5.8 million. Emergency pandemic funding of \$4 million was provided by the ministry to the Community Initiatives Fund due to casinos being temporarily closed.
 - The Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund provided approximately \$65.5 million to benefit over 12,000 sport, culture, recreation, and community organizations.
- Highlight the benefits of multiculturalism in Saskatchewan and implement actions to follow up on the Multiculturalism Act legislative review.
 - The ministry focused support for multiculturalism through funding to the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan for the Anit-Racism Campaign.
 - The ministry worked with Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan and Public Service Commission to explore multicultural opportunities in the Government of Saskatchewan.
- 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.
 - The ministry participated on several federal/provincial/territorial committees to advance implementation of sport, physical activity, culture, and recreation initiatives.
 - Ministerial meeting completed and strategic plan approved for culture and heritage initiatives.
 - Interprovincial physical activity, recreation, surveillance, and monitoring work continued to support all national policies.
 - Continued to partner with ParticipACTION to promote physical activity in Saskatchewan.
 - Consultations scheduled for renewal of Canada Sport Policy.
- Increase the inclusivity of the Saskatchewan Geographic Names Program.
 - The ministry is working with the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre to further develop processes and guidelines for the policy for engaging Indigenous communities and increasing the nomination of Indigenous names by Indigenous groups.
- Manage the French-language Service Centre to provide public access to websites, services, and programs of the Government of Saskatchewan in French.
 - The French-language Services Centre responded to 491 requests in 2021-22, a 26 per cent increase over the previous year. 98 per cent of requests were responded to within 48 hours.
- Increase French-language services delivered online and over the phone.
 - New pages were added to saskatchewan.ca/bonjour relating to programs for seniors, family law (including kits for self-representing litigants) and education (Take a Break campaign).
 - The language capacity survey was completed in the second half of 21-22. The survey identified 109 offices across government where French-language services can be accessed. The list of offices is available on saskatchewan.ca/bonjour.
- Provide a translation service to ministries, Crown corporations and agencies.
 - The Francophone Affairs Branch translated 508,000 words in 2021-22.

- Attract new visitors to the provincial parks through new and targeted initiatives, such as recreational, educational, and cultural programs and services and events.
 - Two new Camp Easy yurts were installed in Greenwater and Duck Mountain Provincial Parks aimed at those without camping equipment.
 - The ministry replaced four tents with four new yurts at Buffalo Pound and Blackstrap Provincial Parks.
 - Queen mattresses were introduced in each of our 21 Camp Easy structures.
 - All newly installed yurts come insulated and are available as three season accommodations.
 - In 2021-2022 Visitor Experiences hosted 31 summer events that brought in 16,141 participants, distributed 41,420 PAKs, delivered 1,601 in-person programs and 48 school programs for a total of 81,732 participants in park programming. We welcomed a total of 7,445 visitors to Historic Parks in 2021.

Strategy

Increase knowledge and awareness

Key Actions

- Provide heritage regulatory and capacity building services to assist property owners, land developers and communities.
 - Two online heritage training workshops and four webinars were organized and presented.
 - The ministry also responded to numerous requests for specific technical advice relating to municipal and provincial heritage properties and archaeological sites.
 - Geographic Names nomination forms, instructions and website were updated.
 - New electronic report submission guidelines for archaeologists were distributed.
- Enhance the Saskatchewan Geographic Name Program to incorporate Indigenous engagement and input.
 - The new Policy for Naming Geographic Features allows the use of multiple names for a geographic feature, which is designed to facilitate the nomination and use of traditional Indigenous names.
- Work with federal, provincial and territorial partners and Geographic Names Board of Canada to increase awareness of the value of heritage conservation and authoritative geographic names to society.
 - Approximately 7,500 updated geographic coordinates associated with approved geographic names in Saskatchewan were shared with the Geographic Names Board of Canada for inclusion on the national Geographic Names database.
- Conduct and facilitate scientific research at RSM and promote discoveries made by RSM researchers.
 - RSM researchers uncovered the fossilized remains of one pre-histories largest creatures a prognathodon, in the west block of Grasslands National Park.
 - Dr. Ryan McKellar co-authored a paper on crabs found in amber, adding 80 million years to the fossil record, proving the existence of freshwater or marine crabs as far back as the Cretaceous era.
 - Ryan Oram's publication in the Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society described irregularities in the morphology of some bee (*Hyleaus*) specimens.
 - Dr. Ryan Fisher and Dr. Ray Poulin published a paper on Richardson's ground squirrels (gophers). These creatures are an important component of the Saskatchewan ecosystem and a significant agricultural pest. Until now, there had never been a study to determine what factors on the landscape are associated with the abundance and distribution of this species. This type of research is essential in supporting wildlife and ecosystem management decision making.

- Support Wanuskewin Heritage Park’s application to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
 - Funding has been provided to hire a full-time designated Project Coordinator to assist with the application process. The ministry continues to seek connections to advance the UNESCO submission.
- Implement guidelines for the French-language Services Policy.
 - Performance indicators for the implementation of the Guidelines were included in the template for reporting on French-language services distributed to ministries. Results showed progress in making French-language information available to citizens, but challenges remain in actively offering French-language services
- Strengthen the French-language Services Champion Committee.
 - Champions met quarterly. They are involved in promoting French-language classes and receive regular information on the Francophone community.
- Implement a Francophone Employee Network within the Government of Saskatchewan.
 - Work on this action was deferred to 2022-23 due to resource constraints and competing priorities.

Strategy

Support the capacity and accountability of government-funded organizations

Key Actions

- Continue to implement governance options for appointees to third party boards and support expertise sharing and communities of practices with third parties.
 - The ministry continued to build governance expertise among agencies and subsidized training opportunities.
 - 21 board members and staff completed the Johnson Shoyama Public Sector Governance Program in 2021-22.
 - 10 board members and staff completed the Board Financials Workshop.
- Continue to develop, improve and implement standardized process for third parties.
 - Many standardized processes were developed and completed in 2021-22, including distribution of appropriation letters, tabling of annual reports, budget calls and submissions, revision of governance and accountability framework, utilization of annual agency discussion guidelines and board appointments facilitation.

Performance Measure Results

Number of words translated

Measure Target: Translate 500,000 words by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: 508,000 words were translated in 2021-22.



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

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

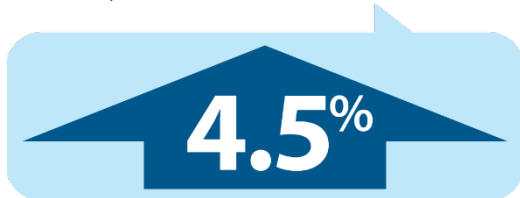
Measure Result: 98.5% inquiries were responded to within 48 hours in 2021-22.



Number of pages on Saskatchewan.ca/bonjour

Measure Target: Increase the number of pages on Saskatchewan.ca/bonjour by 10 per cent by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: As of March 31, 2022, there were 373 pages on saskatchewan.ca/bonjour, a 4.5% increase from March 31, 2021.



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

Measure Target: Support at least 60 projects by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: Approximately \$1.45 million was allocated to support Service Clubs through 80 project grants and 49 operational grants.



Number of ice surfaces supported through the Community Rink Affordability Grant

Measure Target: 600 ice surfaces supported by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: 593 ice surfaces were supported totaling \$1,482,500.



Number of coaches and leaders trained through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund and Canada-Saskatchewan Bilateral for Sport Participation for Indigenous Youth

Measure Target: 2,041 coaches and leaders trained by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: 237 coaches and leaders trained. Numbers are lower than previous years due to the pandemic.

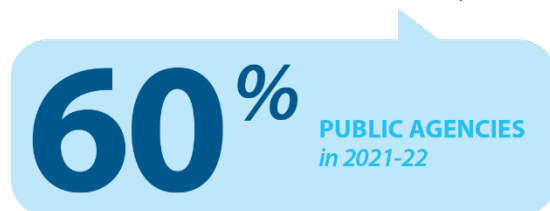
Over 6,000 coaches and leaders have been trained since 2018.



Percentage of sport, culture and recreation third parties with harassment, abuse and discrimination policies in place

Measure Target: 80 per cent of public agencies reporting through the Sport, Culture and Recreation Branch have harassment, abuse and discrimination policies in place by March 31, 2022.

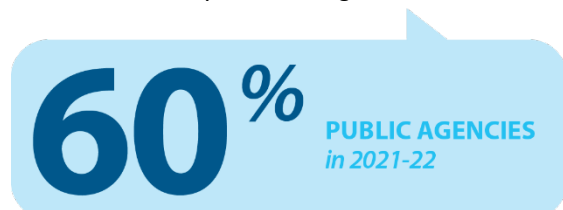
Measure Result: As of March 31, 2022, 60 per cent of public agencies reporting through the Sport, Culture and Recreation Branch have their harassment, abuse and discrimination policies in place.



Percentage of sport, culture and recreation third parties with diversity and inclusion policies in place

Measure Target: 80 per cent of public agencies reporting through the Sport, Culture and Recreation Branch with diversity and inclusion policies in place by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: 60 per cent of public agencies reporting through the Sport, Culture and Recreation Branch had diversity and inclusion policies in place. This information was collected from a one-time survey of public agencies to learn how many of these organizations had harassment, abuse and diversity/inclusion policies in place.



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

Measure Target: 12 board members and staff trained by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: In 2021-22 fiscal year, 21 board members and staff received training. At the end of 2021-22, 63 per cent of all agency board members and staff have now received training in public sector governance.



Number of new geographic names approved by March 31, 2022

Measure Target: Two new geographic names approved by March 31, 2022.

Measure Result: One new geographic name, Lac Ernadene was approved; a second nominated name did not meet the approval criteria and was denied.



Progress in 2021-22

Status of Women Goals

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Mandate

The SWO is the sole branch in government that reports on the status of women. The SWO 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 Statement

Contribute to Saskatchewan's high quality of life and enhance economic growth through raising awareness of issues affecting women to ensure gender considerations are integrated into government policy-making, legislation and program development.

Goals

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

Strategy

The SWO does not directly deliver programs and services to Saskatchewan residents. Instead, the SWO works within government and partners across the province to identify and address gender equality gaps.

Key Actions

- Work with internal and external stakeholders to ensure gender considerations are integrated into government decision-making.
 - The SWO virtually hosted the 39th Annual Meeting of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women. This meeting allowed the Office the opportunity to highlight positive trends in the province, as well as discuss areas of opportunity to support women.
 - The SWO advised ministry partners including Trade and Export Development, Innovation Saskatchewan, and Immigration and Career Training on supports for women entrepreneurs, which resulted in two new programs funded by Immigration and Career Training: *Scale Up for Entrepreneurs* and *Digital Literacy for Entrepreneurs*.

- Conduct research and report on equality indicators.
 - The SWO was consulted throughout the year on several issues including providing advice on the importance of childcare supports for women and inclusion of gender sensitive language in programs and policy, as well as supporting the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General on addressing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.
- Identify priority areas of concern for Saskatchewan women.
 - The SWO invested in the science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) Conference for Girls run by the Saskatchewan Science Centre. This conference presented an opportunity for over 1,600 participants (girls in grade 6-9) across the province hear from inspiring women and participate in hands on activities in engineering, architecture/design, wildlife rehabilitation and coding.
 - An investment was also provided to Dress for Success Affiliates in Regina and Saskatoon to support annual outreach goals. Dress for Success is an organization that supports women to achieve economic independence by providing support networks, access to professional attire, and development tools to help women entering/re-entering the work force.
- Focus awareness activities on targeted areas.
 - The SWO completed work with the ministries of Justice Attorney General and Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, on the second phase of the interpersonal violence and abuse public awareness campaign: Face the Issue. The campaign highlights a shared responsibility and encourages conversations that will shift attitudes and norms that perpetuate violence.
 - The SWO promoted and celebrated women leaders and mentors across Saskatchewan through the production of International Women's Day videos.
 - The SWO also produced a video on Women Entrepreneurs Week to help raise the visibility of and celebrate women entrepreneurs across Saskatchewan and their contributions to the economy.

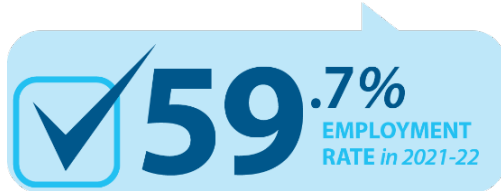
Performance Measure Results

Economic Prosperity

These performance measures capture the economic participation of women in Saskatchewan.

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

As of March 31, 2022, the **employment rate of women in Saskatchewan**, aged 15 and older, was 59.7 per cent and the second highest in Canada, above the national average of 58 per cent.

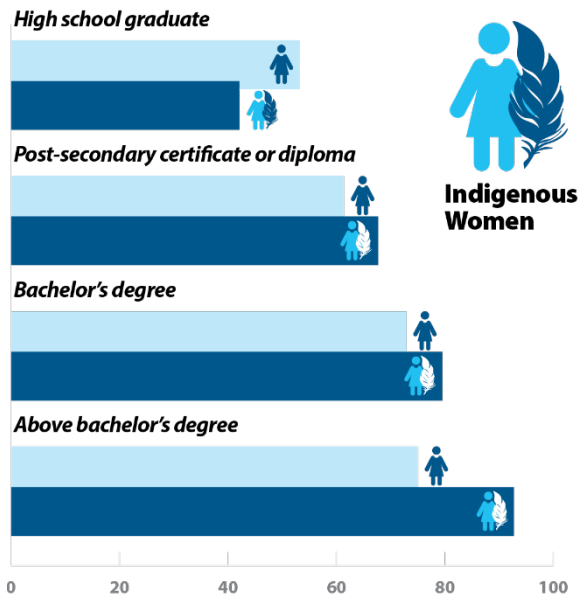


As of March 31, 2022, the **average weekly earnings of Saskatchewan women** over the age of 15 across all industries was \$978.31, which is an increase of \$41.23 from March 2021 and just under the Canadian average of \$988.00. However, Saskatchewan women's average weekly earnings were \$281.54 less than their male counterparts.



The **employment rate of Saskatchewan Indigenous women** by educational attainment is as follows.

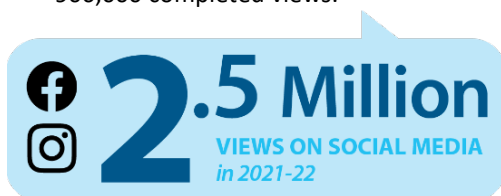
- Rates for non-Indigenous women in 2021:
 - High school graduate = 53.2 per cent.
 - Post-secondary certificate or diploma = 61.4 per cent.
 - Bachelor's degree = 72.9 per cent.
 - University degree above a bachelor's degree = 75.0 per cent.
- Rates for Indigenous women in 2021:
 - High school graduate = 42.1 per cent.
 - Post-secondary certificate or diploma = 67.7 per cent.
 - Bachelor's degree = 79.5 per cent.
 - University degree above a bachelor's degree = 92.7



Interpersonal Violence and Abuse

The Face the Issue Campaign, Phase two, ran from January 10 to March 31, 2022. Phase two focused on recognizing subtle forms of abuse, particularly controlling behavior, with the tagline, “Would you know abuse if you saw it?”

- Television ads were viewed by 88 per cent of adults over 18, who watch television, and seen an estimated 14 times.
- Placements on social media platforms, like Facebook and Instagram, resulted in 2.5 million views and 906,000 completed views.



- Cree, Dene, and French translated placements had strong engagement, and the number of times the ads were shown on screen exceeded expectations by 145 per cent.

Financial Summary

The ministry's appropriation for 2021-22 was \$80.659 million. Including a non-appropriated expense adjustment of \$6.106 million (less capital asset acquisitions of \$16.820 million), the ministry's total approved expense for 2021-22 was \$69.945 million.

Total 2021-22 actual expenses were \$68.336 million, a variance of \$1.609 million from the expense estimate.

The ministry's budgeted revenue for the 2021-22 fiscal year was \$7.209 million. The 2021-22 actual revenue was \$7.178 million, a variance of \$31 thousand from the revenue estimate.

The ministry's actual FTE utilization was 463.8.

Summary of Expenditures

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Additional financial information can be found in the Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts located at <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/893>

Subvote/ Subprogram	(in thousands of dollars)			
	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Estimate	2021-22 Actual	2021-22 Variance
Central Management and Services	9,018	9,646	9,285	(361)
Executive Management	654	880	718	(162) ¹
Central Services	3,915	3,895	3,831	(64)
Status of Women	*	375	400	25
Accommodation Services	4,396	4,445	4,282	(163)
Minister's Salary (Statutory)	53	51	54	3
Parks	28,560	32,286	32,284	(2)
Provincial Park Programs	4,937	5,010	4,962	(48)
Parks Capital Projects	13,102	16,315	17,343	1,028
Parks Preventative Maintenance	1,607	1,807	1,766	(41)
Regional Parks	523	600	600	-
Urban Parks	500	500	500	-
Commercial Revolving Fund - Subsidy	7,891	8,054	7,113	(941) ²

Resource Stewardship	6,804	7,888	7,189	(699)
Operational Support	2,300	3,040	2,596	(444)³
Francophone Affairs	615	719	634	(85)⁴
Support for Provincial Heritage and Culture	1,021	1,120	873	(247)⁵
Royal Saskatchewan Museum	2,868	3,009	3,086	77
Community Engagement	26,210	30,839	30,972	133
Community Sport, Culture and Recreation Programs	1,571	3,200	3,063	(137)
Active Families Benefit	0	4,000	4,000	-
Heritage Institutions and Saskatchewan Science Centre	5,415	5,415	5,635	220
Saskatchewan Arts Board	6,610	6,610	6,610	-
Emergency Pandemic Support for Community Initiatives Fund	5,000	4,000	5,000	-
Creative Saskatchewan	7,314	7,314	7,314	-
Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation	300	300	350	50⁶
Total Appropriation	70,592	80,659	79,730	(929)
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(13,256)	(16,820)	(17,487)	(667)
Capital Asset Amortization	5,788	6,106	6,093	(13)
Total Expense	63,124	69,945	68,336	(1,609)

*The Status of Women Office was restated in 2021-22 Budget however the 2020-21 actuals were reported through Advanced Education.

Notes:

1. Variance due to vacancy management and savings in travel and contractual services.
2. Decrease in Commercial Revolving Fund subsidy to offset increased capital pressures associated with inflationary increases in materials, labour and freight.
3. Variance due to vacancy management and delayed staffing, miscellaneous operating savings and delays in capital project progress.
4. Variance due to vacancy management.
5. Variance due to uncommitted discretionary or deferred funding requests.
6. Variance due to supplementary funding.

Revenue Statement

Summary of Revenues

The ministry's budgeted revenue for the 2021-22 fiscal year was \$7.209 million. The 2021-22 actual revenue was \$7.178 million, resulting in a \$31 thousand variance from the revenue estimate.

The ministry collects revenue relating to the lottery license fee, rental of the Soundstage and fees from hosting various mixed martial arts events. The ministry also receives funding from the Federal Government under a Federal-Provincial Sport Bilateral Agreement, a French-language Services Agreement and may receive funding through application to various federal programs the ministry is deemed eligible. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. A summary of the ministry's 2021-22 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Variance explanations are provided for all variances greater than \$100,000.

Revenue Category	(in thousands of dollars)			
	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Estimate	2021-22 Actual	2021-22 Variance
Other Own-source Revenue				
Other Fees and Charges	6,340	5,888	6,815	927 ¹
Miscellaneous	1,533	35	54	19
Subtotal	7,873	5,923	6,839	946
Transfer from the Federal Gov't	1,785	1,286	1,237	(49)
Total Revenue	9,658	7,209	8,106	897

Notes:

1. Return to more statistical jackpot roll patterns has led to lottery sales being higher than anticipated.

Revolving Funds

The Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF) is the financing mechanism for collection and distribution of funds used in the operation of Saskatchewan’s provincial parks, recreation sites and historic parks. The purpose of this revolving fund is to pay for activities required to support the management, development, and promotion of provincial parks. The fund receives revenue from a variety of activities that take place within provincial parks and recreation sites, such as camping, entry gate permits, cottage lot leases, leased commercial facilities (stores, marinas, cabin rentals, etc.), resource use activities and other miscellaneous items. Expenditures within the CRF contribute to the operation of the provincial park system and are made to ensure safe public enjoyment of provincial parks and recreation sites.

The CRF operates under the authority of Section 18 of *The Natural Resources Act*. The ministry administers the CRF. The CRF contains and records the direct operating revenues and expenditures associated with delivering the parks program.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2021-22 related to the operation of the fund. Audited financial statements will be available at:

<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/5125>

<i>Based on unaudited figures for 2020-21</i>				
Revenue Category	(in thousands of dollars)			
	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Estimate	2021-22 Actual	2021-22 Variance
Revenue	22,030	20,905	27,492	6,587 ¹
Expenses				
Salaries	15,897	16,142	18,178	2,036
Operating Expenses	13,098	12,805	15,378	2,573
Total Expenses	28,995	28,947	33,556	4,609 ²
Net (Loss) Profit	(6,965)	(8,042)	(6,064)	1,978
Subsidy from the General Revenue Fund	7,891	8,054	7,113	(941)³
Net (Loss) Profit After Subsidy	926	12	1,049	1,037
Accumulated Operating (Deficit) Surplus, End of Year	1,012 *		2,061	1,049⁴

Notes:

1. Variance due to record breaking park visitation, partially driven by COVID-19 pandemic influencing residents to travel locally, in addition to higher than anticipated forestry revenue.
2. Variance due to additional staff and contractual services required to meet the demands of record visitation and COVID-19.
3. Variance due to a partial reallocation of the Subsidy to the Capital program to offset pressures associated with inflationary increases in materials, labour and freight.
4. Variance in the Accumulated Operating Surplus due to the net impact of annual revenue and expense variances.

*This total was incorrectly stated in the 2020-21 Annual Report as \$1,097.