

# Building Capacity through Pilot Projects and Partnerships

## The Saskatchewan Experience



# Outline

- Introduction - Pilots & Partnerships
- Key Success Factors
- An Accountant's Perspective
- An Engineer's Perspective
- Pilot Summary
- Lessons Learned
- Conclusion



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# Key Messages

- Benefits of a Pilot
- Benefits of an Interdisciplinary Approach



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# Presenters

- Steve Brown, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- Nicole Allen, Vemax Management Inc
- Gordon Sparks, Vemax Management Inc



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# Partners

- 2 Pilot Municipalities - Key Personnel
  - Wendy Gowda, RM of Buckland
  - Shelley Funk, Town of Dalmeny



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# Setting

- **Tangible Capital Asset Reporting**
  - New territory with many unknowns
  - Technically challenging
  - Significant amount of issues and tasks
  - Deadline for deliverables
  - Limited resources
- **Tools Available**
  - One of the tools ... Pilot project



# Key Success Factors

- Grass roots/ownership
- Shared goals
- Timely/Quick results
- Cost effective
- Priority focused
- Communication
- Right skill sets



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# An Accountant's Perspective

- Engineer's provided the pilot with:
  - Municipal Infrastructure Expertise
  - Manageable and relevant pilot outputs
  - Strong partnership commitment
  - Simple and concise communication



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# An Accountant's Perspective

- **RM of Buckland has:**

- 490 km of Rural roads (Graveled)
- 54 km of Subdivision roads (Sealed, Paved, Gravel)
- 16 Bridges

- **Town of Dalmeny has:**

- 16.5 km of Road Infrastructure
- 13.6 km of Water Infrastructure
- 9.5 km of Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure



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# An Engineer's Perspective

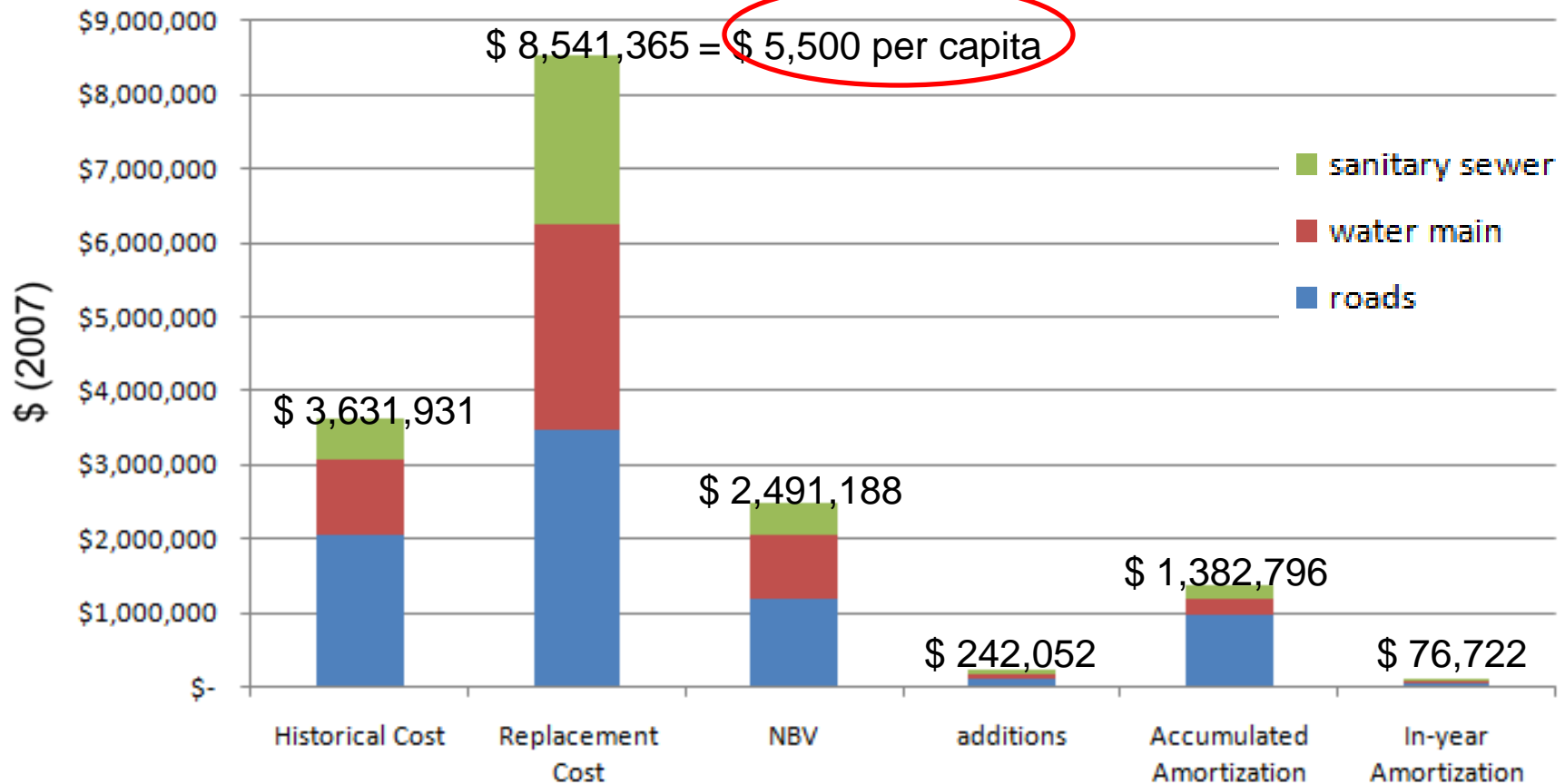
- Accountants provided the pilot with:
  - financial accounting guidelines expertise
  - advice on acceptable audit trails for data
- Accounting framework allowed provided:
  - A concise format to communicate important information



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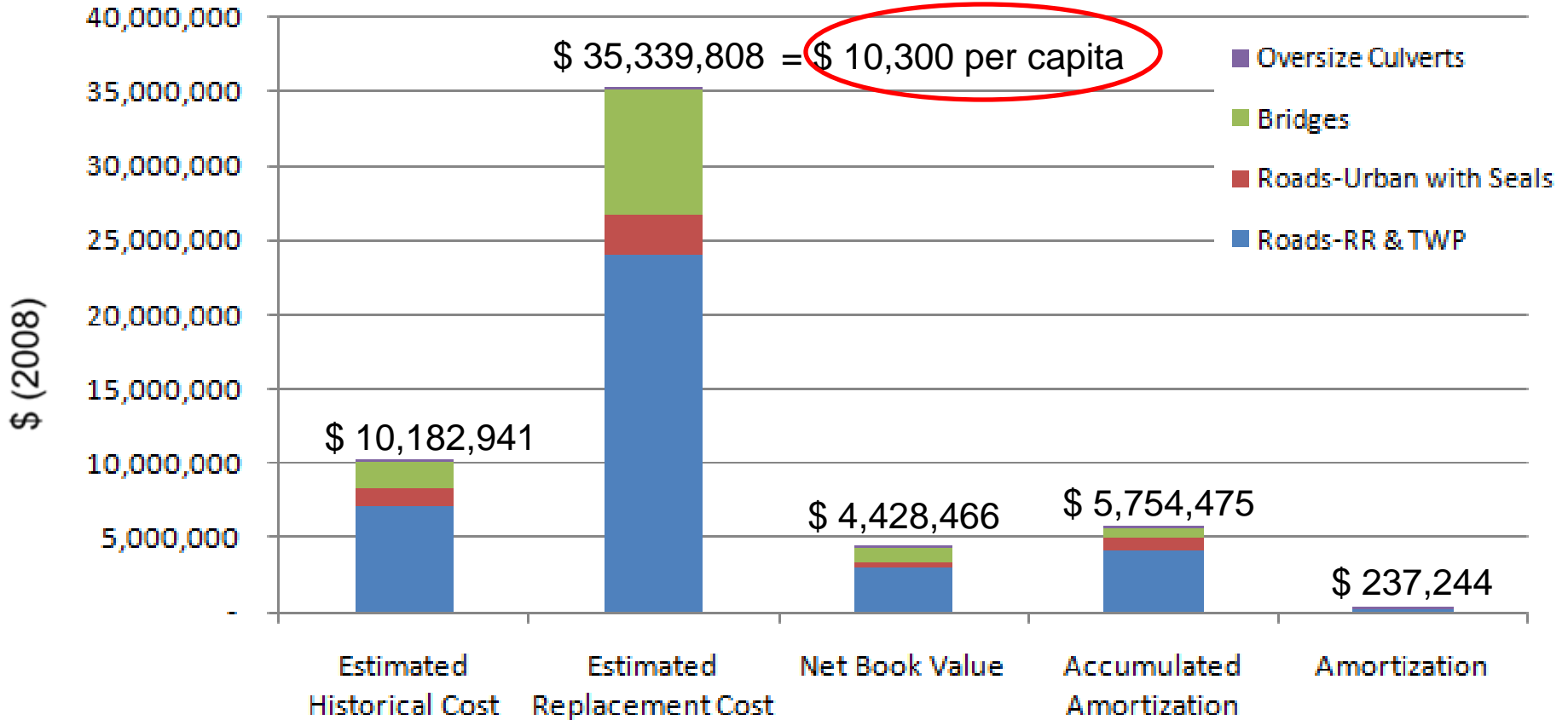
# Town of Dalmeny Summary 2007



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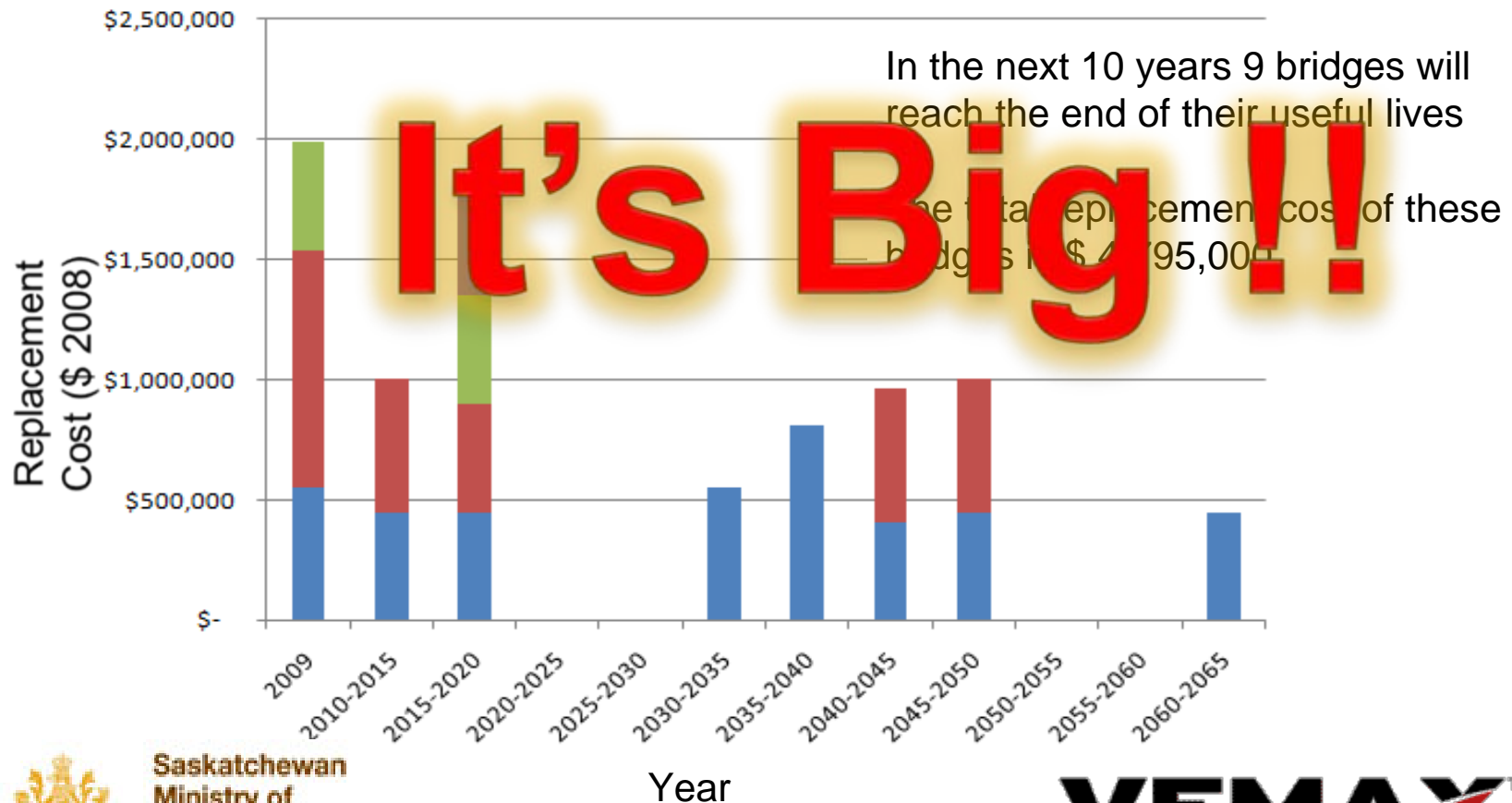
# RM of Buckland Summary 2008



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# Predicted Bridge Replacement Costs (\$ 2008) by Year



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# Pilot Summary

- Did the Pilot Project Approach work?
  - Yes!
  
- How did we measure success?
  - Contributed to high PS 3150 compliance
    - 70 – 80% compliance in a year!
    - 700+ municipal entities!



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# How did we measure success?

- cont'd

- Raised awareness among all stakeholders
  - Politicians / administrators / public
  - Benefits of proactive management of assets on a life cycle basis
  
- Broad based support to move to Phase 2  
Pilot Projects

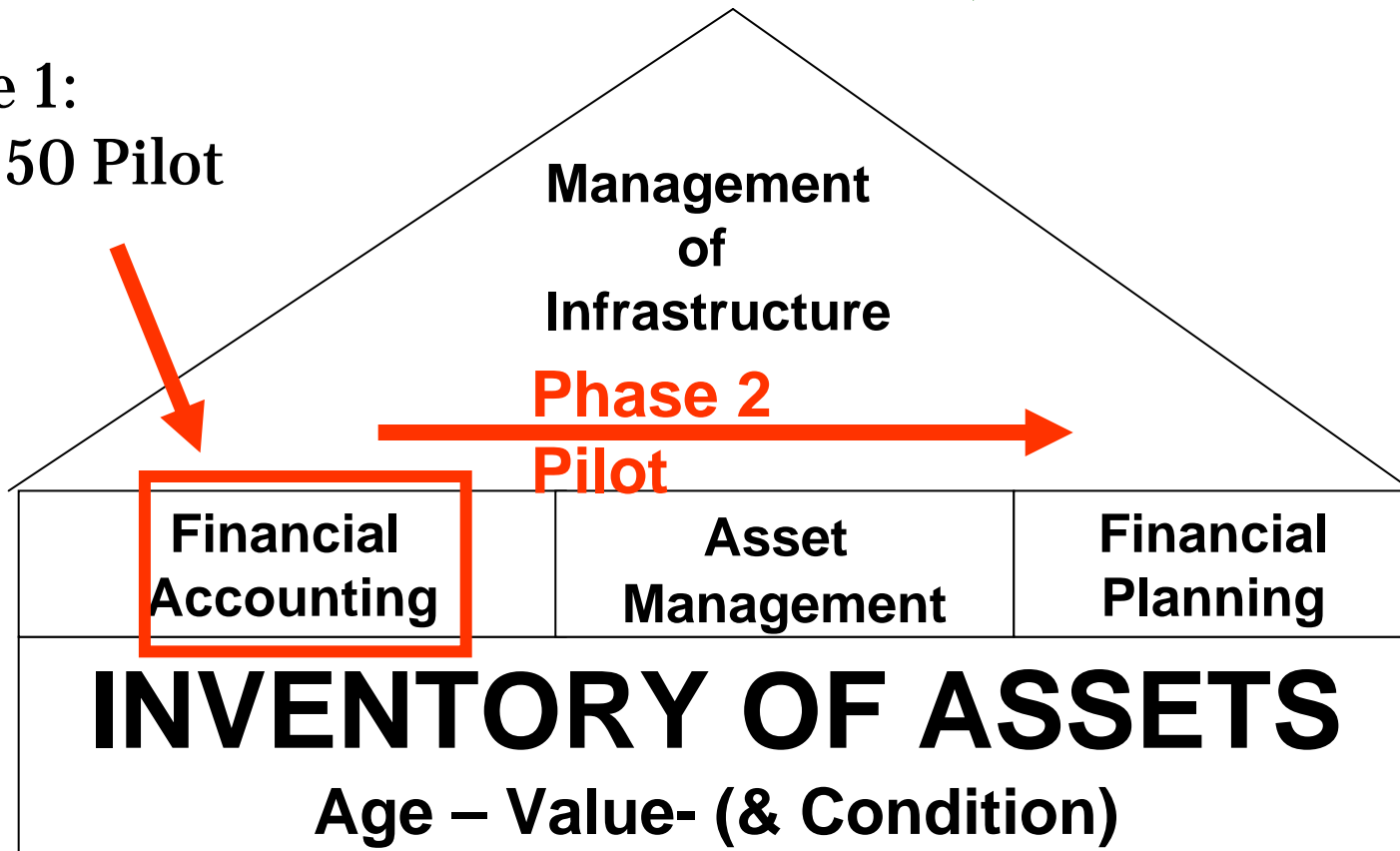


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# Phase 2 Pilot Project

Phase 1:  
PS 3150 Pilot



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# Lessons Learned

## ■ Strategy

- Start with a clear vision of the end point / deliverable
  - PS 3150 compliance
  - 1<sup>st</sup> step in moving to Asset Management Plan & Long Term Financial Plan
    - Inventory – detailed!
    - Age
    - Valuation – historical & replacement



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# Lessons Learned – cont'd

- Eat the elephant one bite at a time!
  - Start with one asset type – do it
  - Then do other asset types
- Data / precision – 90 / 10 rule
  - Don't sweat the small stuff!
  - Get to the end – warts and all
- Team
  - Interdisciplinary – all stakeholders
    - Politicians / administrators / public works staff / accountants / engineers



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# Online Resources

- Website address to go here
  - Pilot results are available online at [www.sasktca.ca](http://www.sasktca.ca)
  - Phase two pilot results will be available online later in 2010.



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**Questions ?**

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