

The Provincial Highway Sign Control Regulations

being

[Chapter H-3.01 Reg 10](#) (effective May 11, 2012).

NOTE:

This consolidation is not official. Amendments have been incorporated for convenience of reference and the original statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpretation and application of the law. In order to preserve the integrity of the original statutes and regulations, errors that may have appeared are reproduced in this consolidation.

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CHAPTER H-3.01 REG 10
The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997

PART I
Title and Interpretation

Title

1 These regulations may be cited as *The Provincial Highway Sign Control Regulations*.

Interpretation

2 In these regulations:

- (a) **“Act”** means *The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997*;
- (b) **“agricultural research or demonstration sign”** means a sign related to research or demonstration of agricultural products or activities;
- (c) **“auction sign”** means a temporary sign displaying only:
 - (i) the name of the auctioneer; and
 - (ii) details of the sale;
- (d) **“commemorative marker”** means a marker that is intended to memorialize a person who died as a result of a traffic collision at or near the location where the sign is erected;
- (e) **“commercial area”** or **“industrial area”** means an area outside a city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet that is set aside by a rural municipality for three or more businesses;
- (f) **“community promotional sign”** means a sign that is erected by or on behalf of a municipality or Indian band and that contains information about the municipality or Indian band;
- (g) **“controlled signing area”** means the area within a distance of 400 metres on each side of the right of way of a provincial highway;
- (h) **“crime watch sign”** means a sign that identifies a crime watch area;
- (i) **“election sign”** means a sign erected by or on the authority of a candidate in an election held pursuant to the *Canada Elections Act*, *The Election Act, 1996* or *The Local Government Election Act*;
- (j) **“historic marker”** means a marker that identifies locations of historical significance;

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- (k) **“identification sign”** means a sign that displays any or all of the following:
- (i) the name of the owner or occupier of the land, or the name of the business or the activity, for which the sign is erected;
 - (ii) the type of business or activity being carried on;
 - (iii) directions to the business or activity;
 - (iv) the logo, slogan, address or telephone number of the business or activity;
 - (v) an advertisement respecting the goods or services provided by the business or the activity, but only if the sign is on the same land as that on which the business or activity is being carried on;
- (l) **“Indian band”** means a band as defined in the *Indian Act* (Canada) and includes the council of a band;
- (m) **“industrial development sign”** means a temporary sign that identifies the location of temporary or start-up operations for industrial, forestry, mining, oil exploration, gas exploration or other, similar operations;
- (n) **“major tourist attraction”** means an attraction that:
- (i) in the minister’s opinion, clearly demonstrates the potential to generate a minimum of 15,000 visits per year, with 10,000 of those visits being by visitors residing more than 80 kilometres away from the attraction;
 - (ii) has three or more motorist services, including the sale of vehicle fuel, within 10 kilometres of the attraction;
 - (iii) in the minister’s opinion, has adequate restroom facilities; and
 - (iv) is open seven days a week or, if the attraction is seasonal, open seven days per week during the season that the attraction is operated;
- (o) **“military route marker”** means a temporary marker erected by the Canadian Armed Forces to direct military traffic;
- (p) **“municipal bylaw sign”** means a sign erected by a municipality or Indian band providing information about the municipality’s or Indian band’s bylaws;
- (q) **“municipal highway”** means a public highway under the control and administration of a municipality;
- (r) **“permit”** means a permit issued pursuant to subsection 29(3) of the Act;
- (s) **“real estate open house sign”** means a temporary sign displaying only:
- (i) the name of the realtor hosting the open house; and
 - (ii) details of the open house;

- (t) **“recreational trail sign”** means a sign for a recreational trail that is under the control and management of a person or organization whose purposes include the control and management of that type of trail;
- (u) **“resource management sign”** means a sign containing information related to the protection or management of the environment;
- (v) **“route map”** means a sign that indicates traffic routes, services, attractions or points of interest;
- (w) **“rural business”** means a business that is located in a rural municipality or an Indian reserve and that is not located in a city, town, village or resort village;
- (x) **“rural road name sign”** means a sign that identifies a rural road;
- (y) **“sight triangle”** means a triangular area, as determined by the minister, at an intersection of a provincial highway with another public highway or railway crossing, that is to be kept clear of sight obstructions for persons approaching the intersection or crossing;
- (z) **“sign corridor”** means a strip of land that is parallel and adjacent to the right of way of a provincial highway and for which the minister has issued a permit in accordance with Part IV as a location for community promotional signs or identification signs;
- (aa) **“sign corridor administrator”** means, with respect to a sign corridor, the city, town, village, resort village, rural municipality or Indian band that is responsible for the administration and management of the sign corridor;
- (bb) **“special event sign”** means a temporary sign for the purpose of directing and notifying persons of an event that, in the minister’s opinion, has municipal, provincial, national or international importance occurring within the vicinity of the sign;
- (cc) **“tourism oriented directional sign”** means a sign that informs motorists of the existence of major tourist attractions;
- (dd) **“utility sign or marker”** means a sign or marker erected by the owner or operator of a public or private underground water, sewer, electrical, gas, oil, telecommunications or other, similar utility to mark the location of the underground utility.

PART II
Signs on Rights of Way

Standards for signs on rights of way

3 Every sign erected in accordance with this Part must comply with Part I of the Appendix.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s3.

Exemptions from the requirement to obtain a permit

4(1) Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of subsection 29(4) of the Act, the following signs may be erected on a right of way and are exempted from the requirement to obtain a permit:

- (a) one auction sign per auction for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) in the opinion of the minister, it is not practical to erect the sign off the right of way;
 - (ii) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area; and
 - (iii) the sign is erected no sooner than one day before the date of the auction sale and is removed on the day after the date of the auction sale;
- (b) an election sign, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed three square metres in area;
 - (ii) the sign is not erected until after the election writ for the election has been issued or, in the case of an election pursuant to *The Local Government Election Act*, not more than 30 days before the date of the election;
 - (iii) the sign is removed within seven days after the date of the election; and
 - (iv) the sign is not erected on any shoulders, side slopes, ditches, back slopes, medians, roadways or approaches to a provincial highway;
- (c) one industrial development sign per industrial development site for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) in the opinion of the minister, it is not practical to erect the sign off the right of way; and
 - (ii) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area;
- (d) one real estate open house sign per open house for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) in the opinion of the minister, it is not practical to erect the sign off the right of way;
 - (ii) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area; and
 - (iii) the sign is erected no sooner than one day before the date of the open house and is removed on the day after the date of the open house;

(e) one agricultural demonstration sign per demonstration site for each direction of travel, but only if:

- (i) in the opinion of the minister, it is not practical to erect the sign off the right of way;
- (ii) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area; and
- (iii) the sign is erected no sooner than one day before the date of the demonstration and is removed on the day after the date of the demonstration.

(2) The exemptions mentioned in subsection (1) for a sign do not apply if, in the opinion of the minister, the sign:

- (a) interferes with or obstructs the view of official signs; or
- (b) constitutes a hazard to traffic.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s4.

Signs on rights of way for which a permit may be issued

5 For the purposes of subsection 29(3) of the Act, the minister may issue a permit to erect the following signs on a right of way:

- (a) a utility sign or marker;
- (b) a recreational trail sign;
- (c) a commemorative marker;
- (d) a military route marker;
- (e) a route map;
- (f) a crime watch sign;
- (g) a rural road name sign;
- (h) a historic marker;
- (i) an election sign if the sign does not meet the criteria set out in clause 4(1)(b) to be exempt from the requirement for a permit;
- (j) a municipal bylaw sign.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s5.

PART III
Signs off Rights of Way

Standards for signs off rights of way

6 Every sign erected in accordance with this Part must comply with Part II of the Appendix.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s6.

Exemptions from the requirement to obtain a permit

7(1) Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of subsection 29(4) of the Act, the following signs may be erected within the controlled signing area and are exempted from the requirement to obtain a permit:

- (a) a sign that is not visible to a person travelling on a provincial highway;
- (b) one identification sign for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed three square metres in area; and
 - (ii) the sign is located on the same land where the person who is mentioned in the sign resides or where the business or activity mentioned in the sign is carried on;
- (c) an election sign, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed three square metres in area;
 - (ii) the sign is not erected until after the election writ for the election has been issued or, in the case of an election pursuant to *The Local Government Election Act*, not more than 30 days before the date of the election; and
 - (iii) the sign is removed within seven days after the date of the election;
- (d) one auction sign per auction for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed three square metres in area; and
 - (ii) the sign is erected no sooner than one day before the date of the auction sale and is removed on the day after the date of the auction sale;
- (e) one sign for a construction site that:
 - (i) does not exceed three square metres in area;
 - (ii) identifies the architect, engineer or contractor of the construction site; and
 - (iii) is erected on the construction site only for the period of the construction;
- (f) a sign that:
 - (i) does not exceed one square metre in area; and
 - (ii) states that access to the land on which the sign is erected is restricted or denied to trespassers, hunters or snowmobile operators;

- (g) a utility sign or marker that does not exceed one square metre in area;
 - (h) a sign that indicates the location of the sale of agricultural products or goods, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area;
 - (ii) the sale is of a short-term or seasonal nature and the sign is not erected and in place for more than two consecutive months in each year; and
 - (iii) the location indicated by the sign is in a rural municipality;
 - (i) an agricultural research or demonstration sign, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area; and
 - (ii) the sign is not erected and in place more than five months in each year;
 - (j) a resource management sign that does not exceed one square metre in area;
 - (k) one industrial development sign per industrial development site for each direction of travel that does not exceed one square metre in area;
 - (l) one real estate open house sign per open house for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed one square metre in area; and
 - (ii) the sign is erected no sooner than one day before the date of the open house and is removed on the day after the date of the open house;
 - (m) one real estate sign that does not exceed three square metres in area.
- (2) The exemptions in subsection (1) for a sign do not apply if, in the opinion of the minister, the sign:
- (a) interferes with or obstructs the view of official signs; or
 - (b) constitutes a hazard to traffic.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s7.

Signs in controlled signing area for which a permit may be issued

8(1) Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of subsection 29(3) of the Act, the minister may issue a permit to erect the following signs in the controlled signing area:

- (a) a sign mentioned in section 5;
- (b) a sign mentioned in clause 7(1)(c), (d), (e), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l) or (m) if the sign does not meet the criteria set out in those clauses to be exempt from the requirement for a permit;
- (c) an identification sign for a rural business;

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- (d) a tourism oriented directional sign;
 - (e) a sign that, in the opinion of the minister, promotes a charitable or fund-raising project;
 - (f) one auction sign per auction for each direction of travel, but only if:
 - (i) the sign does not exceed three square metres in area; and
 - (ii) the sign is erected no sooner than 21 days before the auction sale and is removed the day after the end of the auction;
 - (g) a special event sign;
 - (h) a community promotional sign.
- (2) No permit is required pursuant to subsection (1) for a sign if the sign is in a sign corridor and the person erecting the sign has a valid permit for the sign issued by the sign corridor administrator pursuant to Part V.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s8.

PART IV
Permits for Sign Corridors

Permits for sign corridors

9(1) Subject to subsection (2), for the purposes of subsection 29(3) of the Act, the minister may issue a permit to the following to establish a sign corridor within the controlled signing area:

- (a) a city, town, village, resort village or rural municipality on behalf of an organized hamlet if the city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet is located on the route of a provincial highway;
- (b) a city, town, village, resort village or rural municipality on behalf of an organized hamlet if the city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet is connected to a provincial highway by a municipal highway that allows access only to that city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet;
- (c) a city, town, village, resort village or rural municipality on behalf of an organized hamlet if the city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet:
 - (i) is located on a municipal highway that connects to a provincial highway; and
 - (ii) is located within 10 kilometres of a provincial highway;
- (d) a rural municipality that contains a commercial or industrial area that is located within 10 kilometres of a provincial highway;
- (e) an Indian band whose reserve land is located outside the boundaries of a city, town or village and within 10 kilometres of a provincial highway.

(2) A sign corridor established pursuant to subsection (1) must not, in the opinion of the minister:

- (a) interfere with or obstruct the view of official signs; or
- (b) constitute a hazard to traffic.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s9.

Conditions respecting sign corridors

10(1) In this section, “**community**” means a city, town, village, resort village or organized hamlet.

(2) Every sign corridor must comply with all of the following requirements:

- (a) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is not otherwise possible, the sign corridor must be located on the right hand side of the provincial highway approaching the community, commercial or industrial area or reserve land to which the sign corridor relates;
- (b) the sign corridor must not extend further than 12 kilometres from:
 - (i) the community, commercial or industrial area or reserve land to which the sign corridor relates; or
 - (ii) the junction of the provincial highway and the municipal highway accessing the community, commercial or industrial area or reserve land;
- (c) the sign corridor must not exceed two kilometres in length.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s10.

Permits for signs in sign corridor

11 No person shall erect a sign in a sign corridor without a permit from the sign corridor administrator.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s11.

PART V

Permit Applications, Terms and Cancellations

Application for permit for a sign

12(1) A person who intends to obtain a permit to erect a sign on the right of way or in the controlled signing area shall apply to the minister in writing.

(2) A person who intends to obtain a permit to erect a sign in a sign corridor shall apply to the sign corridor administrator in writing.

(3) An application pursuant to this section must contain the following:

- (a) if the sign is not to be erected in a sign corridor, a plan or drawing showing the exact location of the sign in relation to any provincial highway located within 400 metres of the proposed location of the sign;

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- (b) a drawing or image of the sign showing the face of the sign and its dimensions;
- (c) a drawing or description of the support structure for the sign, including the manner by which the sign will be fixed to the ground;
- (d) a description of the materials and method of construction.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s12.

Application for permit for a sign corridor

13(1) A city, town, village, resort village, rural municipality or Indian band that intends to establish a sign corridor shall apply to the minister in writing.

(2) An application pursuant to this section must contain the following:

- (a) a description of the proposed sign corridor, including location and dimensions, that is complete to the minister's satisfaction;
- (b) if the application is by a city, town, village, resort village or rural municipality, confirmation that the sign corridor complies with the bylaws of the city, town, village, resort village or rural municipality in which it is located;
- (c) confirmation satisfactory to the minister that the city, town, village, resort village, rural municipality or Indian band has the consent of the owner of the land on which the sign corridor is to be erected;
- (d) an undertaking by the city, town, village, resort village, rural municipality or Indian band that it will be responsible for the administration and management of the sign corridor and will act as sign corridor administrator.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s13.

Approval or refusal of permit

14 On receipt of an application pursuant to section 12 or 13, the minister or the sign corridor administrator may:

- (a) request further plans, specifications or other information that the minister or the sign corridor administrator reasonably requires; and
- (b) either:
 - (i) issue the permit applied for if the minister or the sign corridor administrator is satisfied that:
 - (A) the applicant has complied with the Act and these regulations;
 - (B) the sign or sign corridor with respect to which the application was made will comply with these regulations; and
 - (C) it is in the public interest to issue the permit; or

(ii) refuse to issue the permit applied for if the minister or the sign corridor administrator is satisfied that:

- (A) the sign with respect to which the application was made interferes with or obstructs the view of official signs;
- (B) the sign with respect to which the application was made constitutes a hazard to traffic;
- (C) the applicant has not complied with the Act and these regulations;
- (D) the sign or sign corridor with respect to which the application was made will not comply with these regulations; or
- (E) it is in not the public interest to issue the permit.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s14.

Term of permit

15 Unless otherwise stated in the permit, a permit issued pursuant to these regulations:

- (a) for a sign is valid for five years after the date of its issue; and
- (b) for a sign corridor is valid for 10 years after the date of its issue.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s15.

Effect of cancellation of permit for sign corridor

16 If the minister cancels a permit for a sign corridor in accordance with sections 49 and 50 of the Act:

- (a) the city, town, village, resort village, rural municipality or Indian band whose permit has been cancelled shall, on receiving written notice from the minister of the cancellation, provide all records it has kept respecting the sign corridor to the minister; and
- (b) on receiving written notice from the minister of the cancellation, every person who erected a sign in the sign corridor shall immediately remove the sign.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s16.

Costs

17(1) The minister may charge a person a fee in an amount that is sufficient, in the minister's opinion, to recover the minister's costs and expenses for fabricating, erecting, maintaining or removing any sign erected at the request of that person.

(2) Any fee charged by the minister pursuant to this section is a debt owing to the Government of Saskatchewan from the person on whom the fee was imposed, and the minister may recover that fee in any manner authorized pursuant to *The Financial Administration Act, 1993* or in any other manner authorized by law.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s17.

H-3.01 REG 10 PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY SIGN CONTROL**PART VI**
Repeal and Coming into Force**R.R.S. c.H-3 Reg 11 repealed**

18 *The Erection of Signs Adjacent to Provincial Highways Regulations, 1986* are repealed.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s18.

Coming into force

19 These regulations come into force on the day on which they are filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

25 May 2012 cH-3.01 Reg 10 s19.

Appendix
PART I
Specifications for Signs on Right of Way
[section 3]

A sign located on the right of way must:

- (a) be installed, erected, maintained or removed by the ministry or by a person authorized by the ministry in accordance with the direction of the ministry;
- (b) not by its size, design, message or location create a hazard or mislead a motorist;
- (c) be constructed and maintained to a standard that, in the opinion of the minister, is safe and neat and professional in appearance;
- (d) be erected on posts without struts, cables or other auxiliary supports;
- (e) not display running or rapidly changing electronic messages, have lights that rotate or flash or face the traffic on the highway or otherwise interfere with the vision of motorists on the highway;
- (f) not have moving or rotating parts;
- (g) not in any way resemble an official sign or a standard or commonly used traffic control sign;
- (h) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, not be located within any sight triangle or otherwise interfere with sight lines along the highway, at road intersections or railway crossings;
- (i) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, be at least 500 metres from the intersection of the centre lines of two provincial highways;

- (j) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, in the case of an interchange between a provincial highway and a public highway, be at least 500 metres from the intersection of the centre lines of the provincial highway and public highway;
- (k) not be more than 0.3 square metres for every metre that it is distant from the centre line of the highway unless expressly permitted by the terms of a permit;
- (l) not be more than eight metres in height from the bottom of the sign support to the top of the sign face;
- (m) not be erected on trees or painted or drawn on rocks or other natural features;
- (n) not be erected adjacent to a horizontal curve on any provincial highway where a curve warning sign has been posted with an advisory or speed reduction sign;
- (o) not include banners, streamers, flags and similar devices;
- (p) be located, to the extent possible, at the outer edge of the right of way;
- (q) be readily legible by a person with ordinary vision who is travelling on the highway;
- (r) comply with any applicable codes, standards or regulations; and
- (s) be located at a minimum distance in metres from any other private sign erected pursuant to the authority of a permit that is equal to the lesser of:
 - (i) the product of 12 metres and the number representing the area in square metres of the larger of the two signs; and
 - (ii) 150 metres.

PART II

Specifications for Signs in Controlled Signing Area

[sections 6 and 12]

A sign located within the controlled signing area, including in a sign corridor, must:

- (a) comply with the bylaws of the municipality in which the controlled signing area is located or the requirements of any other lawful authority;
- (b) be constructed and maintained to a standard that in the opinion of the minister, is safe, neat and professional in appearance;
- (c) be erected on:
 - (i) posts without struts, cables or other auxiliary supports; or
 - (ii) a vehicle, trailer or structure suitable for the purpose of displaying the sign;

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- (d) not display running or rapidly changing electronic messages, lights that rotate or flash, lights that face the traffic on the highway or lights that otherwise interfere with the vision of motorists on the highway;
- (e) not have moving or rotating parts;
- (f) not in any way resemble an official sign or a standard or commonly used traffic control sign;
- (g) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, not be located within any sight triangle or otherwise interfere with sight lines along the highway, at road intersections or railway crossings;
- (h) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, be at least 500 metres from the intersection of the centre lines of two provincial highways;
- (i) unless the minister is of the opinion that it is necessary to do otherwise, in the case of an interchange between a provincial highway and a public highway, be at least 500 metres from the intersection of the centre lines of the provincial highway and public highway;
- (j) not be more than 0.3 square metres for every metre that it is distant from the centre line of the highway unless expressly permitted by the terms of a permit;
- (k) not be more than 16 metres in height from the bottom of the sign support to the top of the sign face;
- (l) not be erected on trees or painted or drawn on rocks or other natural features;
- (m) not be erected adjacent to a horizontal curve on any provincial highway where a curve warning sign has been posted with an advisory or speed reduction sign;
- (n) not include banners, streamers, flags and similar devices;
- (o) in the case of a community promotional sign for a city, town, village, resort village, organized hamlet or Indian band:
 - (i) not extend further than 12 kilometres from:
 - (A) the city, town, village, resort village, organized hamlet, commercial or industrial area or reserve land of the Indian band to which the sign relates; or
 - (B) the junction of the provincial highway and the municipal highway accessing the city, town, village, resort village, organized hamlet, commercial or industrial area or reserve land of the Indian band to which the sign relates; and
 - (ii) not be erected in advance of a municipality, commercial or industrial area or reserve land other than the city, town, village, resort village, organized hamlet, commercial or industrial area or reserve land of the Indian band to which the sign relates;

- (p) in the case of a community promotional sign for a rural municipality, be located within that rural municipality;
- (q) be readily legible by a person with ordinary vision who is travelling on the highway;
- (r) in the case of an identification sign for a rural business located on a municipal highway:
 - (i) be located within 10 kilometres of the junction of the provincial highway and the municipal highway providing access to the local business; and
 - (ii) not exceed a maximum of three signs, including official signs, per direction of travel;
- (s) in the case of an identification sign for a rural business located on a provincial highway:
 - (i) be located within 10 kilometres of the entrance to the rural business; and
 - (ii) not exceed a maximum of three signs, including official signs, per direction of travel;
- (t) comply with any applicable codes, standards or regulations;
- (u) not by its size, design, message or location create a hazard or mislead a motorist;
- (v) be located at a minimum distance in metres from any other private sign erected pursuant to the authority of a permit that is equal to the lesser of:
 - (i) the product of 12 metres and the number representing the area in square metres of the larger of the two signs; and
 - (ii) 150 metres; and
- (w) in the case of a tourism oriented directional sign for a major tourist attraction located in a city, be located within 10 kilometres of the city.

