



Message from the Minister

I am pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Ministry of Advanced Education for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013.

During the year, the Ministry continued to deliver on the Government's vision and goals and to build on the promises made to the Saskatchewan people.

We focused on the province's labour market needs by building on record investments in post-secondary education and skills training with significant support for First Nations and Métis peoples.

The Ministry increased its financial support for post-secondary institutions and its investment in students, ensuring that post-secondary education remains accessible and affordable. We also took strides to improve accountability in our institutions and are working to make further progress in the future.

Post-secondary institutes continue to provide high quality education for our students who will contribute to our growing economy in Saskatchewan.

For more information on the Ministry's results, please refer to the Ministry's 2012-13 Annual Report, or visit our website at www.ae.gov.sk.ca.

*The Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Advanced Education*

Ministry Mission Statement:

The Ministry is responsible for the post-secondary education system that supports a growing Saskatchewan and that leads to a higher quality of life. We work with our post-secondary institutions towards system innovation and sustainability, and to achieve the following goals:

- Increase participation in and completion of high quality advanced education for all students, especially First Nations and Métis people;
- Retain educated and skilled workers in the province; and
- Attract students from outside of the province and the country by promoting Saskatchewan's opportunities.

For more information on the Ministry, see www.ae.gov.sk.ca or call 306-787-9478



Government
of
Saskatchewan

Ministry of Advanced Education (AE) 2012-13 Annual Report Highlights

Keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huszar Photography

Government's Vision

...a strong and growing Saskatchewan, 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..



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huszar Photography

Ministry Overview

In 2012-13, the Ministry of Advanced Education worked with post-secondary institutions across the province to ensure strategic alignment with Ministry goals and effective two-way information sharing. The Ministry engaged with the institutions to respond to the needs of the labour market and to ensure accountability for outcomes and effective governance practices.

The Ministry also continued to build collaborative partnerships to support effective delivery of programs and services for advanced education learners and graduates in Saskatchewan.

The initiatives pursued in 2012-13, and the results achieved, are shared with the Legislature and the people of Saskatchewan through the Annual Report. Not only is this report an important accountability document, it also helps to inform planning and resource allocation in the coming years. To this end, the Ministry will continue to build on its work to help the province sustain growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people while delivering responsive and responsible government and improving our quality of life.



The Ministry of Advanced Education: Providing Excellent Services to Stakeholders

- Saskatchewan Student Loans totaling over \$51.9 million were disbursed to 12,869 full-time students.
- Close to \$52 million in Graduate Retention Program benefits were provided to 50,000 graduates for the 2012 taxation year.
- A total of almost \$2.3 million was awarded to over 4,500 eligible Saskatchewan high school graduates through the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship.
- Our Student Service Centre dealt with a wide range of student financial aid questions. The Centre answered over 16,600 calls and 891 email enquiries; and served over 1,600 walk-in clients.
- Saskatchewan partnered with the Government of Canada to ensure processes are streamlined for the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings Plan.
- Lean processes were used to maximize efficiency in several student financial aid programs. For example, loan agreements for students were combined into one.



Our 2012-13 Significant Achievements

Sustaining Growth and Opportunities...

- The new Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship was introduced for Saskatchewan high school graduates entering post-secondary education programs.
- The Ministry provided \$5 million in Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship funding to post-secondary institutions, to be matched by private contributions.
- Development was initiated on the Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings program.
- The expansion of undergraduate medical seats from 84 to 100 was fully implemented in September, 2012.
- The Loan Forgiveness for Nurses and Nurse Practitioners program was successfully introduced.
- The Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology received over \$151 million and the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies received \$4.7 million to deliver programming to meet the needs of the labour market.
- \$47 million was provided to support post-secondary education and skills training for First Nations and Métis people.
- Over 15,000 First Nations and Métis students were enrolled in post-secondary institutions.
- \$1 million was provided to support the University of Regina in the planning and development of a new student residence, child care centre and parkade project.
- Over \$17 million in funding was provided to support research and innovation initiatives including the International Vaccine Centre, Canadian Light Source and Water Research Chair.
- *The Degree Authorization Act* was proclaimed on October 29, 2012, enabling institutions other than the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan to provide degree programs and grant degrees in Saskatchewan.
- The Saskatchewan Higher Education Quality Assurance Board was appointed to oversee the provincial quality assurance review process and to provide recommendations to the Minister of Advanced Education.
- A certification program for board members of regional colleges was developed and implemented to improve governance and accountability in the sector.

Delivering Responsive and Responsible Government...

- The Ministry introduced a review of its core programs by undertaking a critical assessment of the Student Aid Fund. Action on the approved recommendations will commence in 2013-14.

Financial Summary

2012-13 Budget (000s)	2012-13 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$724,621	\$722,752	\$(1,869)



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Kevin Hogarth Photography