



Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Government Relations' 2012-13 Annual Report Highlights.

The Ministry's Annual Report and Highlights demonstrate how Government Relations

contributed to the progress of our *Government's Direction for 2012-13: Keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage*.

*The Honourable Jim Reiter
Minister of Government Relations
Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs*

Ministry Mandate:

With responsibility for municipal relations, public safety, and First Nations, Métis and northern affairs, the Ministry works with a diverse range of partners and stakeholders to effectively plan for and respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by economic growth; to enhance the quality of life for all Saskatchewan people; and to promote community safety.



Photo Credit: FSIN/Ted Whitecalf



For more information on the Ministry, see www.gr.gov.sk.ca or call 306-798-6093



Government
of
Saskatchewan

Ministry of Government Relations

2012-13 Annual Report Highlights

Keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huzar 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 Huzar Photography

Ministry Overview

Government Relations' core lines of business include:

Working with partners to advance sustainable growth:

- Effective municipal governance balancing local autonomy with provincial interests.
- Effective long term infrastructure planning while responding to immediate infrastructure and service needs.
- Identifying barriers to growth and enabling instruments and relationships that promote economic opportunity.
- Supporting local and regional planning, cooperation and other capacities that position communities to address the challenges of growth.

Acting as an interlocutor between ministries, governments, and Aboriginal representative organizations in support of enterprise wide approaches to improving social and economic outcomes for First Nations and Métis people.

Working with government, First Nations, Métis and industry to assist in fulfilling governments' legal obligations under Treaty Land Entitlement and Duty to Consult.

Working with our public safety partners:

- Ensuring effective oversight of public safety legislation.
- Providing emergency management and building and fire safety programs.
- Directing provincial incident command and the emergency operations centre.
- Supporting victims – individuals, businesses, communities – to recover from natural disasters including non-insurable financial loss.

Funding Assistance

\$97.8 million in capital investment was expensed through the following programs in 2012-13:

- Building Canada Fund – Communities Component: \$19.5 million
- Building Canada Fund – Major Infrastructure Component: \$4.2 million
- Federal Gas Tax Program: \$55.8 million
- Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund: \$439,000
- Provincial-Territorial Base Fund: \$8.5 million
- Provincial-Municipal Support Program: \$3.4 million
- Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative: \$5.7 million
- Transit Assistance for Persons with Disabilities: \$286,000.

The Government of Saskatchewan provided \$237.4 million to municipalities through its revenue sharing program, the highest amount of operational funding shared with municipalities by the provincial government in the history of Saskatchewan:

- \$151.9 million to urban municipalities;
- \$68.9 million to rural municipalities; and,
- \$16.6 million to northern municipalities.

In 2012-13, the Ministry expensed \$112.7 million through the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program to help citizens and communities recover from the impacts of natural disasters.



Our 2012-13 Significant Achievements

- Through the Long-term Infrastructure initiative, the Ministry is working with the municipal sector to complete the development of options on how best to develop a sustainable long-term approach to municipal infrastructure.
- The Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP) helps residents, small businesses, agricultural operations, communal organizations, non-profit organizations, parks, and communities recover from the effects of natural disasters. In 2012-13 the Ministry:
 - expanded the PDAP website, developed fact sheets, and improved information packages and other communication tools designed to better prepare individuals, families and communities;
 - reviewed and updated program guidelines to provide clarity and consistency in the management of claims;
 - designated 154 communities for assistance under the program, received 935 claims and made 441 payments on 2012 claims; and,
 - continued to manage outstanding 2010 and 2011 claims and processed 7,000 payments on these claims.
- The Ministry implemented interoperable radio communications across jurisdictions and disciplines for the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunication Network (PPSTN) to ensure emergency service and public safety personnel responding to emergency events have the ability to communicate with each other. The PPSTN now hosts 8,000 interoperable user radios on the system. Work continues to maintain the resilience, reliability and security of the system, bridge service gaps and manage the infrastructure lifecycle.
- Under the First Nations Gaming Agreement, the Government of Saskatchewan distributed \$60.12 million to the First Nations Trust (FNT) and \$22.38 million to four Community Development Corporations (CDCs). Payments to the FNT and the CDCs are used for economic and social development purposes in all First Nation communities in Saskatchewan. In addition, non-First Nation charitable groups in the communities where the casinos are located benefit from these proceeds.
- In 2012-13, the Ministry established a provincial interlocutor office for First Nations and Métis Relations. This office provides an important connection between ministries, governments, Aboriginal representative organizations in support of enterprise wide approaches to improving social and economic outcomes for First Nations and Métis people.



Financial Summary

2012-13 Budget (000s)	2012-13 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$599,204	\$592,639	\$(6,565)

FTEs: 302.3



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