



## Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport 2012-13 Annual Report Highlights.

The ministry enhances economic growth and supports quality of life by managing the provincial parks system and providing recreation, sport, heritage and cultural opportunities for residents and visitors.

This document provides an executive summary of the more detailed annual report and highlights the Ministry's more notable accomplishments in 2012-13 in support of Government's vision and goals.

For more information on the ministry's results, please refer to the 2012-13 Annual Report, or visit the Ministry's website ([www.pcs.gov.sk.ca](http://www.pcs.gov.sk.ca)).

*The Honourable Kevin Doherty  
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport*

## Ministry Mission Statement:

Enhance economic growth and actively promote and support quality of life for Saskatchewan residents and visitors by providing recreation, sport, culture and tourism opportunities, managing the provincial parks system, and instilling pride and optimism in Saskatchewan through its provincial capital.



Photo Credit: Saskatchewan Provincial Parks

For more information on the Ministry, see [www.pcs.gov.sk.ca](http://www.pcs.gov.sk.ca) or call 306-787-5729



Government  
of  
Saskatchewan

# Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport 2012-13 Annual Report Highlights



## Keeping the Saskatchewan Advantage

Photo Credit: Chelsea Coupal, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

## 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

The ministry supports, celebrates and builds pride in Saskatchewan.

The ministry's strategic focus is on improved quality of life and economic growth and works with diverse groups and communities to: enhance the province's cultural, artistic, recreational and social life; promote excellence in the arts, culture, heritage and sport areas; and, to support a vibrant and growing arts and cultural community.

The ministry supports and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system, conserves ecosystems and cultural resources and provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park visitors.

The ministry also oversees the Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) that was first established April 1, 2010. PCC's role is to promote, preserve, and strengthen our distinctive Saskatchewan heritage and culture through the celebration and creation of opportunities for tourism and economic development within the capital city, with emphasis on educating youth about the history of our province.

# The Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport: Providing Excellent Services to Stakeholders

Supported the Community Initiatives Fund by providing \$9.7 million in funding to 637 Saskatchewan community projects through the Community Vitality Grant.

Announced the \$5 million investment fund in support of Creative Saskatchewan, a new agency designed to facilitate a favourable business environment for the creative industry sector.

Promoted Government House as a diverse educational centre, an exciting tourism destination, and a historic hospitality facilitator. In 2012-13, site visitations increased to more than 29,085.

Continued to work with Sask Sport, SaskCulture, and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association in their fulfillment of the strategic priorities identified in the Lottery Agreement. Over the first four years of the agreement, culture and recreation organizations received over \$6 million more in additional funding.

Provided advisory and support services to local government, community organizations, and 169 other stakeholders to facilitate the protection, conservation, planning and promotion of historic places. In addition, the Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation granted \$170,000 to projects around the province in 2012-13.

Reached an agreement with the Board of Directors of the T.rex Discovery Centre that will see the Royal Saskatchewan Museum operate the facility in alignment with its mandate for palaeontology, heritage and cultural stewardship.



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Paul Austring

## Our 2012-13 Significant Achievements

### *Sustaining growth and opportunities for Saskatchewan people.*

The Ministry is on track to establish the new "Great Blue Heron Provincial Park" in the area of Anglin and Emma Lakes in 2013-14. After extensive planning, collaboration and consultations with local residents, park visitors, and First Nations and Métis in 2012-13, this will be the first new provincial park created in over 20 years.

In support of the Year of Music in Saskatchewan, the government provided financial support towards hosting the Canadian Country Music Awards in Saskatoon and Juno Awards in Regina.

### *Improving our quality of life.*

The province celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Legislative Building through educational opportunities, outreach, and legacy projects such as the 2012 Time Capsule. The Artist-in-Residence Program resulted in legacy artworks being displayed and featured in the Legislative Building.

Saskatchewan's provincial parks had another record year for visitation in 2012, reaching an all-time high of 3.56 million visitor days. This represents a 6 per cent increase over the previous year and an 18% increase since 2007. Through a \$3 million increase in infrastructure funding, Saskatchewan provincial parks saw improvements to service centres, campsite electrical services and public safety. This investment continues government's commitment to increase capital funding by \$10 million over four years.

Main Street Saskatchewan continues to revitalize local downtowns of Wolseley, Indian Head, Maple Creek and Prince Albert. To date, the program has leveraged almost ten times what the province invested in local property rehabilitation; inspired almost \$1 million in local downtown property purchases; and, resulted in new business start-ups, as well as the establishment of new Chambers of Commerce and local economic development organizations.

The artsVest program was extended with investment of \$500,000 from the Government of Saskatchewan and matching funds from Heritage Canada. The program resulted in more than \$2.4 million of financial support for the arts and culture sector and brought money into local economies.

### *Making life affordable.*

The Active Families Benefit program was expanded to include all children under the age of 18 and increased the budget from \$9 million in 2011-12 to \$12 million for 2012-13. The program continues to provide a refundable tax benefit of up to \$150 per child involved in cultural, recreational or sport activities.

The Community Rink Affordability Grant was made available to the public on September 10, 2012 across Saskatchewan. 664 ice surfaces from around the province received the grant in 2012-13, including 23 arenas on reserve land.

### *Delivering responsive and responsible government.*

The ministry is able to stay connected to the public through social media outlets for the RSM and T.rex Discovery Centre, Saskatchewaner, provincial parks and Government House. The Provincial Capital Commission used web-based tools and new technology to promote public interest, including virtual tours of heritage facilities and an interactive touch table at the Government House Diamond Jubilee exhibit.



Photo Credit: Chelsea Coupal, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

### Financial Summary

2012-13 Budget (000s)	2012-13 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$96,288	\$99,820	\$3,532

Actual FTEs: 421.7



Photo Credit: Adam Crosby, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport