



Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the 2011-12 Annual Report Highlights for the Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations (FNMR), which illustrates the Ministry's most notable accomplishments in

support of Government's vision and goals.

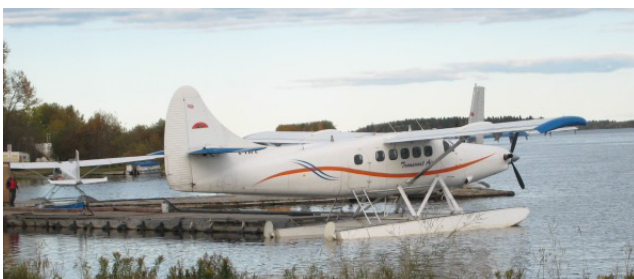
The Ministry's Annual Report and Highlights also demonstrate how FNMR has contributed to the progress of our *Government's Direction for 2011-12: The Saskatchewan Advantage*.

For more information please see the Ministry's 2011-12 Annual Report or visit our website at www.gr.gov.sk.ca.

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

Mission Statement

The Ministry strengthens relationships between First Nations and non-First Nations people in the spirit of the Treaties and ensures that First Nations and Métis peoples are consulted on provincial legislation and policies that may impact their legal rights and interests. The Ministry works with First Nations, Métis and northern people, other provincial ministries, the federal government, local governments, and business to ensure that Saskatchewan Aboriginal people and Northerners have opportunities to participate in and benefit from economic and social development.



For more information on the Ministry, see www.gr.gov.sk.ca or call 306-787-6250



Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations 2011-12 Annual Report Highlights

The Saskatchewan Advantage



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huszar Photography

Ministry Overview

The Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations consists of four areas: First Nations and Métis Affairs Division; Northern Affairs Division; Communications; and Finance, Accountability and Corporate Services. Employees are located in Regina, La Ronge and Buffalo Narrows.

The First Nations and Métis Affairs Division activities improve outcomes for First Nations and Métis people by fulfilling mandated and legal obligations, providing policy leadership, developing partnerships with ministries, agencies, First Nations and Métis, federal departments, municipalities and the private sector.

Northern Affairs Division activities strengthen opportunities for Northerners. The Division promotes and coordinates effective economic and social development initiatives and industry relations by providing policy and program leadership, and by fostering strategic partnerships among First Nations and Métis, northern municipalities, federal departments, community organizations and agencies and industry.



The Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations

Premier's Bear Pit

The Premier and the Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations agreed to the concept for the province of Saskatchewan to host a first ever Premier's Bear Pit with the First Nations leaders from throughout Saskatchewan. The format borrowed heavily from that used by the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association and the Saskatchewan Rural Municipalities Association at their annual conferences. On June 8, 2011, the event was held in Regina with all First Nations leaders invited to participate.

The Bear Pit, which was moderated by Paul Martin, was very well attended, with the Premier joined by fourteen of his Cabinet colleagues, and First Nations leaders from across Saskatchewan in attendance.

The questions posed to the Premier and Cabinet covered a wide-range of issues including highways, education, employment opportunities and skills training.

This historic event provided the opportunity for Cabinet members to hear the thoughts, questions, and concerns of Saskatchewan Chiefs regarding their First Nations people and communities, and to respond to those concerns.



Financial Summary

2011-12 Budget (000s)	2011-12 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$82,255	\$78,576	\$(3,679)

Actual FTEs: 60.9

VISION

A secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, while providing a high quality of life for all.

Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huszar Photography

Our 2011-12 Significant Achievements

Sustaining Economic Growth....

- Under the Gaming Framework Agreement, \$15.35M was distributed to the five Community Development Corporations, an increase of approximately \$2M from 2010-11, and \$45.65M, an increase of over \$4M from 2010-11 to the First Nations Trust.
- The Clarence Campeau Development Fund/Métis Development Fund (CCDF/MDF) received a 35% funding increase in 2011-2012 as a result of a new funding formula implemented in 2010-11. Over the last 13 years, the CCDF/MDF has supported 562 proposals in over 100 different communities; leveraged over \$92M and created or supported approximately 1,600 jobs.
- The Northern Development Fund which supports economic and business development in Northern Saskatchewan approved 35 grants for \$228,241 in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012.

Securing Saskatchewan...

- The Ministry actively worked with other ministries on the development of Saskatchewan's Children and Youth Agenda (SCYA) in relation to First Nations and Métis engagement on government-wide initiatives under the SCYA.
- Northern Social Development worked with northern First Nations, Métis and municipal leaders, to form the Northern Leaders Table. It is working to identify options and priorities for each of the four pillars under the Northern Action Plan – Healthy People, Educated Citizens, Safe Communities and Strong Economy.
- The Ministry provided \$390K to support the hiring of three Northern Social Co-ordinators to work with northern communities to identify and address their specific needs as part of the Northern Action Plan.

Keeping Promises...

- The Ministry continued to develop implementation of the Consultation Policy Framework (CPF), as well as revise the Consultation Participation Fund criteria. By doing so, government is informed through consultations with First Nations and Métis communities where an action or decision of government has the potential to adversely affect Treaty or Aboriginal rights.
- As of March 31, 2012, 27 of 33 Treaty Land Entitlements (TLE) First Nations have attained shortfall acres. More than 791K acres of land has been transferred to reserve status under the TLE Agreements since 1992.

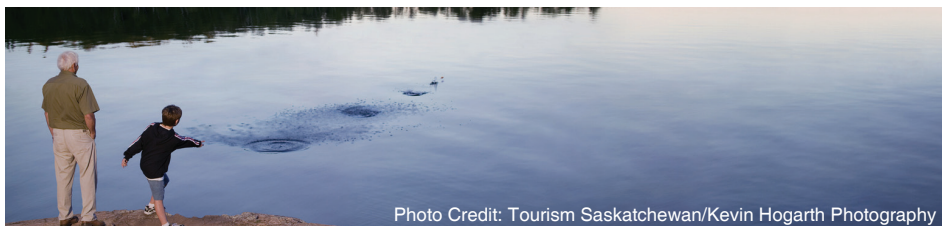


Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Kevin Hogarth Photography