



Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' 2011-12 Annual Report Highlights, 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 Municipal Affairs 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.municipal.gov.sk.ca.

The Honourable Jim Reiter
Minister of Government Relations



Ministry of Municipal Affairs 2011-12 Annual Report Highlights

The Saskatchewan Advantage



Photo Credit: Tourism Saskatchewan/Greg Huszar Photography

Mission Statement:

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs facilitates development of vibrant, safe, self-reliant and accountable municipalities capable of providing leadership and serving the interests of Saskatchewan communities.

Ministry Overview

The Ministry works closely with municipalities, their representative organizations, and other provincial ministries to help ensure effective local government and sustainable municipal infrastructure and services. The Ministry also provides the legislative framework as well as professional, technical and policy support for cities, urban, rural and northern municipalities.

Municipal Affairs provides programs and services to a total of 786 municipalities throughout Saskatchewan. The Ministry supports reaching the Government of Saskatchewan's goals by:

- Sustaining economic growth by engaging municipalities in increasing capacity for economic development, supporting effective community planning, and assisting municipalities in addressing critical infrastructure needs.
- Helping to secure Saskatchewan by enabling municipalities to establish safe, healthy communities.
- Providing support to keep promises and fulfill commitments through improved resources on building municipal capacity and addressing needs, encouraging and facilitating municipal, First Nations and Métis relationships, and increasing municipal financial and operational transparency and accountability.



Photo Credit: City of Weyburn



For more information on the Ministry, see www.municipal.gov.sk.ca or call 306-787-9067



Funding Assistance

Federal and provincial funding provided to third parties, particularly municipalities, through capital programs totaled \$120.8 million in 2011-12:

- Federal Gas Tax program: \$54.65 million;
- Building Canada Fund – Communities Component: \$36.01 million;
- Infrastructure Stimulus Fund: \$8.44 million;
- Provincial/Territorial Base Fund: \$11.48 million;
- Saskatchewan Infrastructure Growth Initiative: \$5.17 million;
- Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund: \$4.23 million;
- Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program: \$0.35 million;
- Rural Revenue Sharing – Communities in Transition: \$0.14 million; and,
- Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities (Capital): \$0.28 million.

Support to our municipal partners also included:

- Grants-in-lieu of property taxes: \$11.98 million;
- Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency: \$9.57 million; and,
- Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities (Operating): \$2.94 million.

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...

- The Government of Saskatchewan provided \$216.8 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:
 - \$99.7 million to cities;
 - \$39.0 million to towns/villages and resort villages;
 - \$62.9 million to rural municipalities (including \$0.4 million in capital); and,
 - \$15.2 million to northern communities.
- Saskatchewan is continuing the role as chair of the Municipal Infrastructure Working Group to initiate further collaborative work on municipal infrastructure and establish a long-term infrastructure program for provinces and territories in partnership with the federal government.

Securing Saskatchewan...

- Through the Integrated Subdivision Review Program, Municipal Affairs received 1,408 subdivision applications and approved 1,200 applications, resulting in the creation of 3,583 sites. The Ministry provides training, education, resources and regulations to assist municipalities in safely achieving sustainable communities.

Keeping Promises...

- Using asset management tools and training developed in Australia, nine municipal pilot projects were launched and four were completed. This initiative resulted in raising awareness among municipal stakeholders and building capacity and knowledge within municipal administration; participants have utilized the training and templates to develop their own version of asset management plans.
- In September, the Municipal Government Sustainability Self-Assessment Tool was launched to help municipalities assess the strengths of municipal operations and identify opportunities for improvement. A user manual, quick reference guide, toolkit, tutorial video and testimonial video were also made available on the website.



Financial Summary

2011-12 Budget (000s)	2011-12 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$388,713	\$374,946	(\$13,767)

Actual FTEs: 127.3

For detailed financial information, please see the Ministry's 2011-12 Annual Report.

