



Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

Annual Report Highlights from 2010-11

Message from the Minister



*The Honourable Don Morgan, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General*

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General's 2010-11 Annual Report Highlights, which highlights the Ministry's most notable accomplishments in support of Government's vision and goals.

Saskatchewan's approach is balanced, forward-looking and responsible in the realization of our Government's vision of a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, and providing a high quality of life for all.

Justice, fairness and accountability remain key components in our Government's vision for the Province - a vision fostered by a plan that includes greater efficiencies and that operates with fiscal prudence, innovation and integrity.

For more information please see the Ministry's 2010-11 Annual Report or visit the Ministry's website.

Ministry Overview

The Ministry provides legal services and policy advice to assist Government in promoting social and economic order for Saskatchewan residents.

Community Justice provides services including alternative measures, community-based justice initiatives and crime prevention programs.

Public Prosecutions represents the interests of the general public in the criminal justice system. It provides legal advice to Government and many law enforcement agencies.

Courts and Civil Justice provides judicial and operational support to the court system, including maintenance enforcement and other family justice services to help parents and children deal with the difficulties of family breakdown.

Civil Law provides legal advice and other legal services to government ministries, agencies, boards and commissions, including conducting litigation, and appearing on behalf of the Government before administrative tribunals.

Public Law provides legal services to Government, including advice on Aboriginal and trade law and constitutional matters, and legal, policy and technical advice about legislation. It also provides government publications through the Queen's Printer.

Regulatory Services provides administrative services to senior management and operational areas of the Ministry, including the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission, the Provincial Mediation Board, the Automobile Injury Appeal Commission, and the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission. It works to safeguard businesses, consumer and public interests and helps to support a growing economy.

Photo Credits:

Melvina Goulet - Victims Services at La Loche - top left

Friggstad Downing Henry Architects - Meadow Lake Court Facility - Rendering page 2

VISION

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

Our 2010-11 Significant Achievements

Sustaining Economic Growth...

- Completed implementation of the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission as a self-funded agency.
- Took actions to improve provincial legislation for mortgage brokers, payday lending and ticket selling, including:
 - ~ *The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act* was proclaimed October 1, 2010.
 - ~ *The Payday Loans Regulations* were approved by Cabinet. The Ministry has applied for federal designation under the *Criminal Code*.
 - ~ *The Ticket Sales Act* was passed by the Legislature in May 2010.
- Passed other legislation, including:
 - ~ *The Condominium Property Admendment Act*
 - ~ *The Enforcement of Money Judgments Act*
 - ~ *The Miscellaneous Statutes (Professional Discipline) Amendment Act, 2010*
- Began developing amendments to *The Pension Benefits Act*.

Securing Saskatchewan...

- In an effort to hold offenders accountable, continued to provide a continuum of services through referrals to alternative measures programs offered by community-based organizations.
- Continued working with federal justice colleagues to strengthen the criminal law and process to deal with serious offenders.

- Continued to strengthen legislation and work with other ministries and provinces to enforce and enhance *The Seizure of Criminal Property Act, 2009*.
- Worked with seven other ministries to develop the Northern Action Plan, a strategy to address social and economic needs in the North.
- Continued collaborative work with the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, resulting in greater accessibility to reports and information on the Ministry's website, and enhanced services for families of missing persons.
- Responded to offending and victimization through enforcement and prosecution of offenders, or in working to reduce the risk of crime and increase public safety through community justice and crime prevention programming.

Keeping Promises...

- Negotiated Federal/provincial agreements to fund the Aboriginal Courtworker Program, First Nations community justice programs and mandatory parent education programming.
- In collaboration with the Western provinces, continued working on issues such as organized crime.
- Released the *First Nation and Metis Consultation Policy Framework*, and consulted with Elders on justice reform and existing policies, programs and services.
- Implemented the LEAN philosophy of continuous improvement to improve processes in several key areas.



Improvements that help secure Saskatchewan...

- Worked with Corrections, Public Safety and Policing and other criminal justice partners to reduce the number of adults in remand.
- Developed a case management and electronic filing system for the Court of Appeal.
- Began development and testing of an automated trial scheduling system in the Saskatoon Provincial Court.
- Established a centralized delivery hub to make Justice of the Peace services available for extended hours.
- Completed construction of the Meadow Lake Court House.
- Enhanced or expanded services and policies for children and families.
- Expanded the number of video-conferencing sites.
- Improved access to services and supports for victims of crime.
 - ~ Responded to the need of victims of crime through 47 programs in 37 agencies.
 - ~ Initiated review of *The Victims of Crime Act, 1995* to expand support to include families of missing persons.
 - ~ Implemented the Intimate Partner Violence Outreach Program.



Financial Summary

2010-11 Budget (000s)	2010-11 Actual (000s)	Variance (000s)
\$146,735	\$145,870	\$(865)

Actual FTEs: 961.9