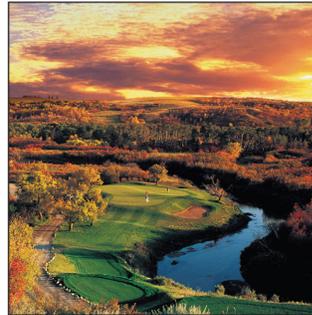


Ministry of the Economy



Annual Regulatory Modernization Progress Report for 2016-17

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Letters of Transmittal



*The Honourable Jeremy Harrison
Minister of the Economy*

Her Honour, the Honourable Vaughn Solomon Schofield
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Regulatory Modernization Progress Report of the Ministry of the Economy for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Harrison". The signature is stylized and cursive.

The Honourable Jeremy Harrison
Minister of the Economy



*Laurie Pushor
Deputy Minister of the Economy*

The Honourable Jeremy Harrison
Minister of the Economy

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the Annual Regulatory Modernization Progress Report of the Ministry of the Economy for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017. This report has been prepared and carefully reviewed under my direction, and accurately represents the activities and accomplishments of government ministries, agencies and Crown corporations during the year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie Pushor". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Laurie Pushor
Deputy Minister of the Economy

Introduction

Some key responsibilities of governments are to protect public health and safety, the environment and to help promote a prosperous economy. One way governments accomplish this is through a robust regulatory environment; however, too often, regulations unintentionally overstep their intended purpose, adding unnecessary and burdensome requirements. Regulations can become overly risk adverse, adding needless costs to everyone without fully achieving the original outcomes intended.

Red tape can be found in any government rule, including legislation, regulations, programs, policies, procedures or standards. Reducing red tape involves governments working closely with stakeholders to identify and eliminate unnecessary regulatory compliance requirements. It also involves regulators taking a risk-based approach to leave the smallest regulatory footprint that will achieve the desired outcome of the regulatory requirement.

In the 2016-17 fiscal year, the Government of Saskatchewan identified red tape reduction initiatives across ministries, agencies and crowns, amounting to \$72.7 million in savings over the next 10 years. The savings realized this fiscal year were quantified using the Direct Cost Estimating tool which measures the direct costs associated with the improvements. With this tool, government is able to directly identify the impact it is having on removing the regulatory burden for businesses and residents of Saskatchewan.

Enhancing Customer Service and Opportunity

Government renewal is about ensuring the work of the public service remains relevant and in-step with the needs of Saskatchewan people, contributing to the growth of the province. Renewal is a commitment to ensure the government first considers the needs and expectations of businesses and Saskatchewan citizens, then builds those considerations into its everyday work.

Adopting a client-centered approach helps provide focus by asking the right questions about how the government can improve its services. It means providing easy access to government services, streamlining government processes and enhancing services such as:

Simplifying and using plain language in government documents;

Adopting a single entry and contact point for approvals and client information; and

Providing clear and direct information through its policies and regulation.

It also means eliminating non-value added activities, like the removal of redundant and duplicative processes, as well as reducing application processing and wait times.

The following are some initiatives that were implemented this year to enhance customer service and opportunities:

Ministry of Agriculture

Insurance Claims

The 2016 growing season turned out to be a difficult one for Saskatchewan producers. Persistent rains throughout the summer and fall seasons resulted in some crops experiencing a downgrade in quality. Heavy snowfall in early October further complicated the situation as harvest was delayed and the quality of the 2016 crop continued to be affected. Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) responded quickly to the situation and addressed the uncertainty producers had regarding their ability to complete the 2016 harvest before winter.

SCIC staff are closely connected to the agriculture industry. Many are farmers and ranchers themselves, and understand the challenges producers face. SCIC staff knew the importance of efficient claims processing for yield and quality losses last fall. SCIC made changes to claim procedures, speeding up the inspection process by completing claim inspections on a crop-by-crop basis. This allowed for claims to be paid before producers harvested their other crops. By taking this step, producers were able to receive their payments sooner.

Adjusters also went beyond their usual territories to assist other regions with inspections.

This change in procedure allowed SCIC to provide \$300 million to producers by the end of December.

All parties agreed to meet these timelines with certain specific exceptions put in place where the two-week turnaround may not be required.

Ministry of the Economy

Implementation of the Electronic Oil and Gas Tenure Registry:

The Ministry of the Economy's Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS) system was activated for industry use on November 19, 2015, and has significantly enhanced both industry and the ministry's business activities—providing self-service online functionality 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

These enhancements extended to oil and gas tenure; however, the full potential of IRIS was not realized until the Oil and Gas Tenure Registry was implemented in regulation. Effective October 27, 2016 *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Regulations* replaced four tenure regulations and prescribed the necessary implementation date for the Oil and Gas Tenure Registry. The four regulations replaced were:

- *The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969;*
- *The Oil Shale Regulations, 1964;*
- *The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964;* and
- *The Lease of Spaces Regulations.*

Tenure-related benefits for industry and ministry staff include the following:

- Reduced processing time for routine transfers from 24 hours to same day, and for non-routine transfers from 84 hours to 24 hours;
- Elapsed time for performing routine checks from three minutes per location to seconds;
- Co-op students are no longer required to process an average of over 4,500 disposition searches per year, as industry self-service completely eliminated this process;
- Fifty per cent reduction in number of land checks required for public offering postings;
- Elimination of requirement to gazette the public offering notices and results, saving administrative time and approximately \$360 per year;
- Making the electronic information in IRIS the legal entity, rather than paper dispositions, and replacing the paper-based lease continuance review with an industry self-service module saved \$3,000 per year on staff mail-outs (paper, printer, folders, envelopes, postage, photocopier);
- Reduced on-site storage from 24 square feet to zero;
- Eliminated fax machine rental for savings of \$1,000 per year; and
- Eliminated bi-monthly sale room, saving approximately 220 hours per year of staff time.

“As a Senior Land Analyst, I am responsible for administrating Saskatchewan Crown oil and gas dispositions within my area. Before PRIME (*the Ministry of the Economy’s Process Renewal and Infrastructure Management Enhancement Program*) and the implementation of the Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS), completing petroleum tenure activities with the Ministry of the Economy was a paper-based process that took considerable time and effort to manage. Research and determining crown mineral rights ownership required the use of a third party program, such as Accumap. Now all of that information can be found in IRIS, eliminating the middleman and ensuring greater integrity of data.”

- Linda Kriff, Senior Land Analyst, Heavy Oil and Gas, Husky Oil Operations Limited

The initial success of IRIS and the Implementation of the Oil and Gas Tenure Registry have been well-received by both industry and ministry staff, and will ensure Saskatchewan's reputation as a progressive leader in the oil and gas industry remains intact—a valuable commodity when competing for investment capital on a global stage.

IRIS User Experience Survey and Advisory Committee

When the Ministry of the Economy implemented IRIS, the online business system that supports the development and regulation of Saskatchewan's energy and resources industry, it did so with a commitment to continually improve the system and customer service. To this end, the Client Support Branch conducted an IRIS user experience survey to gauge industry's perspective on how well IRIS's well and facility infrastructure functionality is performing and assisting them with meeting their regulatory and business requirements with the Government of Saskatchewan. The survey was also designed to measure the level of industry satisfaction with the services that ECON's Petroleum and Natural Gas Division (PNG) was providing as a regulator.

The survey was made available to the 1,182 individual users of IRIS at the beginning of June 2016 and consisted of 12 questions with numerous opportunities to add comments. Two hundred and thirty-one responses were received, including 503 comments. By far, ECON's biggest strength was shown to be customer service but access to IRIS data and potential for increasing future IRIS usage was also strong. Areas of improvement identified were notifications to users from IRIS, the login functionality and the lack of instructions/guidance available for using the system. All of these were addressed, or are in the process of being addressed, since the survey completion.

Enhancing customer service did not end with the completion of the 2016 survey. An IRIS Advisory Committee was formed. The Committee is chaired by ECON and is made up of ECON subject matter experts as well as industry users of the well and facility infrastructure functionality that have a vested interest in IRIS improvement and future development.

The IRIS Advisory Committee's purpose is to ensure industry users are informed and engaged in Saskatchewan's oil and gas regulatory activities and the evolution of IRIS. The industry committee members learn about approved regulatory changes and how IRIS functionality is evolving to meet those considerations. Members have the opportunity to provide feedback on well and facility infrastructure functionality and provide input to ECON and its IRIS governance committees with respect to usability of existing functionality, as well as suggestions with respect to enhancements and improvements to the functionality. ECON will build on this collaborative approach to continue to enhance customer service.

Making It Easier To Do Business in Saskatchewan

Changes to the Ministry of the Economy's guideline for the submission of drill cuttings (PNG023) were required due to a number of factors that include:

- Technological advancement of drill techniques;
- An overabundance of drill cuttings within certain areas of the province;
- Inconsistencies with respect to the submission of drill cuttings and the introduction of a compliance model; and
- Storage space limitations at the ministry's Subsurface Geological Laboratory.

In an average year, 1,640 wells are drilled in the Estevan and Swift Current areas of the province (the areas impacted by the change). For 3,351 sections of land within these areas, drilling companies had already provided sufficient samples and further sampling would be considered unnecessary.

As a result, it was determined that the guidelines for the submission of drill cuttings needed to be updated to address the issues outlined above.

Guideline PNG023: Submission of Drill Cuttings: Oil, Gas and Potash Wells was updated to:

- Make the requirements for the submission of drill cuttings from PNG licensed wells consistent throughout the province, thus removing different requirements based on field office area;
- Reduce the requirements for the submission of drill cuttings to three wellbores (one vertical and two horizontal) per section of land in the impacted areas, thus reducing the potential for oversaturation of data within established oil/gas pools, and in areas associated with potash mines; and
- Address storage space issues at the Subsurface Geological Laboratory, thus increasing the life of the storage capacity at the

facility.

The change means industry will be able to reduce the number of samples being submitted in these areas by 71 per cent. Given the time it takes a geologist to process, label, package and ship the samples, this will equate to \$16.05 million in savings to drilling companies over the next 10 years.

The policy change means the reduction in samples being submitted do not have to be processed and stored by the Geological Laboratory. The resulting savings in storage space and administrative costs to government are estimated to be \$410,000 over the same 10 year period.

Ministry of Government Relations

Revenue sharing

When serious conflict of interest issues arose in the Rural Municipality of Sherwood and resulted in the removal of the reeve, the Ministry of Government Relations recognized the need to strengthen its legislation in this area. One of the recommendations that came out of the inquiry ordered by the minister was to appoint a conflict of interest ombudsman to receive and investigate complaints.

Ombudsman Saskatchewan receives and investigates complaints of unfairness for the provincial, crown, and health sectors; discussions with the office revealed a willingness to expand services to include municipalities. The question of funding was solved by approaching the municipal associations about using existing dollars from provincial revenue sharing, since this service would benefit all municipalities across the province. With agreement from SARM and SUMA, amendments were made to *The Municipal Grants Regulations* to offset \$300,000 from municipal revenue sharing in 2016-17 and 2017-18, with adjustment calculations in place for subsequent years to reflect the actual caseload.

Due to the innovative funding approach, ombudsman services were expanded using existing funding sources, resulting in a \$300,000 savings to government.

Saskatchewan citizens now benefit from expanded services when faced with difficult situations in which they believe their municipality has acted unfairly, including when a council member is not acting appropriately when in a conflict of interest. During the first 12 months of its expanded mandate, the ombudsman received more than 500 complaints about municipal entities and council members — one-third of which related to conflict of interest — and conducted three official investigations, all of which centered around conflict of interest.

Ministry of Social Services

Adoption regulations

On February 25, 2016, the Ministry of Social Services announced changes to *The Adoption Regulations, 2003*, to improve access to birth registration information for all adult adoptees and birth parents involved in adoptions occurring in Saskatchewan. As well, individuals may file a veto to prevent the release of their identifying information from the birth registration, or register a contact preference and indicate how that contact should occur. A contact preference does not prevent the release of the birth registration information. Rather, it allows adult adoptees and birth parents to stipulate their preference regarding the type of contact they want from the other party.

The regulatory amendments came into force on January 1, 2017 and enable adult adoptees to more easily and independently search for information on their birth families. Advancing the notion of “openness” in adoption, the amendments reflect society’s changing attitude towards secrecy in adoptions, and recognize the need for adoptees to build a greater sense of their identity.

To balance the “right to know” with the “right to privacy”, Saskatchewan will retain vetoes for adoptions granted prior to January 1, 2017. Contact preferences will apply to all adoptions.

Up to January 1, 2017, access to birth registration information was dependent on when an adoption occurred. For adoptions occurring prior to April 1, 1997, consent of the adult adoptee and birth parent(s) was required before the birth registration could be released. Consent was often difficult or time consuming to obtain, impacting an adult adoptee’s or birth parent’s ability to learn information in a timely manner. For adoptions granted after April 1, 1997, birth parents and adoptees could place a veto against the release of the birth registration. The veto remains in place until that person withdraws it or dies, preventing the entire birth registration from being released. This meant if both birth parents are named on a birth registration, one has the ability to control the

information of the other.

This regulatory change aligns Saskatchewan with most other Canadian jurisdictions. Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Newfoundland, and the Yukon have implemented similar changes. Social Services consulted with the governments of Ontario, Alberta, and Manitoba regarding their legislation and its implementation. Saskatchewan has taken the additional step of allowing adult children of deceased adult adoptees and deceased birth parents to apply for the birth registration on their behalf.

These regulatory amendments will see the need for search and reunification services through the Ministry's Post Adoption Registry reduced, as adoptees and birth parents are now be able to search and initiate contact on their own. Wait time (previously, waits for information could be as long as three years) for services will be significantly reduced and could potentially be eliminated. Veto and Contact Preference forms are available online and can be submitted with other required documentation by postal mail, email or fax.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Cross-training strategy

Previously, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) customers would not always be able to get the program information they required at the first point of contact, owing to staff's limited knowledge of portfolios.

This issue became evident as SCIC added additional programs to its portfolio, including Agri-Stability, the Wildlife Damage Compensation and Predation Program, and the Western Livestock Price Insurance Program—in addition to Crop Insurance.

To address the issue, SCIC implemented a cross-training strategy to provide staff with the necessary knowledge to respond to questions relating to the portfolio of programs delivered. This measure allows staff to provide improved service to its customers.

Building a Flexible and Modern Regulatory Framework

Governments have traditionally relied on prescriptive, command-and-control regulations to mitigate potentially harmful actions or consequences. However, modern and flexible regulatory approaches are being utilized to achieve social, economic and environmental objectives in a more effective and efficient manner.

Allowing for more flexibility stimulates innovation of new ideas and processes for business to achieve regulatory compliance, and helps them capitalize on their competitive advantages leading to growth and expansion. Regulatory flexibility creates incentives and multiple pathways to regulatory compliance with a focus on outcomes.

Modern regulations promote government transparency, accountability and fairness. They also require government to carefully consider feedback from stakeholders and incorporate it into government decisions at all levels. Solving public issues requires consideration of various alternatives, such as incentive-based solutions, rather than an immediate default to more government regulation. Problems are risk-assessed to determine if they need to be acted on by government.

The following initiatives have been implemented to support the adoption of a flexible and modern regulatory framework:

Ministry of Agriculture

Updating *The Provincial Lands Act*

The Provincial Lands Act, last updated in 1978, is jointly administered by the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment. It was originally drafted to accommodate the settlement of Western Canada and was largely unchanged since its introduction in the 1930s. Both ministries agreed that the updates to the Act were needed because the legislation was silent on key issues around the management of Crown land. The legislation lacked clear regulation-making authority and was written using vague and outdated language. With the updates to the legislation and regulations, the Act is less prescriptive and more enabling, ensuring Saskatchewan people can continue to use Crown land while keeping it protected and productive for generations to come.

Government consulted widely with lessees, stakeholders and First Nations and Métis communities. Responses to the proposed changes were positive, with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) stating in a written response that they “agree with these changes.” The Act received Royal Assent in November 2016. Changes to the Act also resulted in subsequent modernization to the Regulations, which were passed on March 8, 2017.

The updating of legislation and regulations allows for:

- Modernization of wording to keep our province and processes current and forward-looking;
- Reduction of administration processes to improve client service;
- Simplification of the fee structure provides parity for the amounts charged per disposition;
- Better protection of Crown land against damage or misuse by issuing stop work orders and administrative penalties where illegal activity is occurring, such as draining or breaking of natural pasture;
- Government to review and protect land, based on the public interest such as natural habitat for species at risk;
- Crown leases to now potentially be used for security with a financial institution;
- Longer-term leases to encourage investment, such as wind power development;
- Flexibility in the legislation to form regulations that can be more easily updated in the future;
- Alignment of rules for administering Crown land will be more consistent across all ministries;

- Clarity for leaseholders on control access to their leased land;
- The ability to categorize and strategically manage agricultural Crown land to meet the needs of Saskatchewan people; and
- The ability to work with lessees during extenuating circumstances where previously lease cancellation was the only option.

Ministry of the Economy

Improvements to the Mineral Administration Registry Saskatchewan System

Amendments to *The Mineral Tenure Registry Regulations* improve the mineral disposition acquisition process by addressing industry concerns with fragmented claim selections during the re-opening of lapsed claims.

The Crown minerals tenure registry, known as the Mineral Administration Registry Saskatchewan (MARS) system, was launched in 2012 to replace the previous paper-based system of ground staking for mineral dispositions with an online Geographic Information System. These dispositions apply to gold, silver, diamonds, base and precious metals.

MARS was extremely successful in the first 14 months of operations, saving industry:

- Between \$42 and \$46 million that would have been spent on ground staking;
- Three thousand one hundred person-hours that would have been spent on transfers and abstract searches; and
- Ministry savings from 3,049 of these abstracts being generated without staff intervention.

However, MARS recently encountered challenges that had to be addressed to ensure the on-line system remained effective and attractive to industry. Specifically, industry highlighted concerns with the ministry, relating to the re-opening process for lapsed mineral claims—suggesting that the nature of claim staking in MARS had changed over time, resulting in fragmented claims today that were too small for effective exploration activities.

Investigations into MARS transactions revealed that roughly about 11,000 applications to MARS for claims had been made since the system's launch, but registration fee payments had been received for about 4,400 of these, or 40 per cent. With regard to the nearly 6,500 claim applications for which registration fees were never paid and were withdrawn or cancelled, in virtually all cases one of the four non-credit card payment options were selected—usually cash or cheque.

There were five options in MARS for payment of the registration fee: cash, cheque, credit card, direct deposit or electronic funds transfer. The regulations provided applicants with the option of selecting one of four non-credit-card payment options that allowed for up to three business days to submit payment of the registration fee to the Ministry as well as the option to withdraw a pending application before registration fees have been paid.

Feedback from stakeholders included the suggestion that amendments to the regulations—to eliminate the four non-credit card payment options, reduce the time to complete payment of the registration fee for dispositions from 30 minutes to 15 minutes, and eliminate the three-business-day period in which to submit payment of the registration fee—could result in a reduction or elimination of fragmented claims. The Ministry agreed that these changes have the potential to eliminate any claim stakers that may have habitually staked claims and then failed to confirm payment, resulting in fragmented claim selections as these lands were not available to other stakers in the area.

The new regulations took effect on February 10, 2017, and the re-opening of lapsed claims resumed June 13, 2017. The ministry will monitor re-openings to ensure the expected benefits of a credit card-only payment are realized by industry.

Regulatory Modernization for Oil and Gas Tenure

This initiative resulted in dramatic improvements to the regulation and administration of Saskatchewan's oil and gas tenure. The oil and gas industry was governed by four tenure regulations that were antiquated and included shortcomings that threatened to undermine the competitive advantage that Saskatchewan enjoyed over neighboring jurisdictions. The tenure regulations were:

- *The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulations, 1969;*
- *The Oil Shale Regulations, 1964;*
- *The Helium and Associated Gases Regulations, 1964;* and
- *The Lease of Spaces Regulations.*

Concerns that had to be addressed through regulatory change included single substance leases (e.g. petroleum or natural gas-only leases) that had been effectively managed where the substances were diversely-owned in the same horizon. However, recent advances in horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques created a risk of vertical capture of diversely-owned substances.

To mitigate this concern, undisposed substances were withheld from dispositioning, effectively stranding either the petroleum or natural gas in the same zone, resulting in lost bonus bids and royalty revenue for the province.

Other issues of concern included the following:

- A lack of regulation to address inactive or insolvent companies, resulting in ownership ambiguity and difficulty in acquiring well licences;
- An out-of-date fee schedule incompatible with the new IRIS system, requiring unnecessary manual intervention by ministry staff and an administrative burden and nuisance for industry; and
- Shortcomings related to permit lease selections that were inconsistent with lease selection regulations for exploration licences.

To address these concerns, the four tenure regulations were repealed and replaced with a single regulation, *The Oil and Gas Tenure Registry Regulations*, effectively reducing red tape through modernization and rationalization of similar-minded regulations. The new regulations prescribed a fee schedule that:

- Eliminated over 20 nuisance fees being charged for services that were now self-service in IRIS and replaced them with a single, one-time \$600 application fee at the time a new disposition is issued;
- Addressed stranded substances by providing the owner of a single substance lease (petroleum or natural gas-only) with the option to negotiate a bonus bid for the stranded substance outside the public offering process;
- Addressed inactive or insolvent companies by providing for a redistribution of the interest in a mineral disposition; and
- Provided permit owners with greater flexibility in regards to lease selections.

Financial benefits to be realized by the industry under the new fee schedule include savings in the order of \$250,000 per year in service fees. While offset by the application fee which increased from \$28 to \$600 per lease (if 500 leases are issued in a year, the province would generate \$300,000 in revenue), the savings from associated administrative costs eliminated by the new fee structure should mitigate this discrepancy.

The decision to condense and combine four oil and gas tenure regulations into a single regulation sent a strong signal to industry that the ministry is responsive to concerns raised by industry. Red tape reduction, elimination of nuisance fees, and enhancing and streamlining the oil and gas tenure regime, will encourage and attract investment in Saskatchewan's oil patch, ensuring that the province remains a jurisdiction of choice for the oil and gas industry.

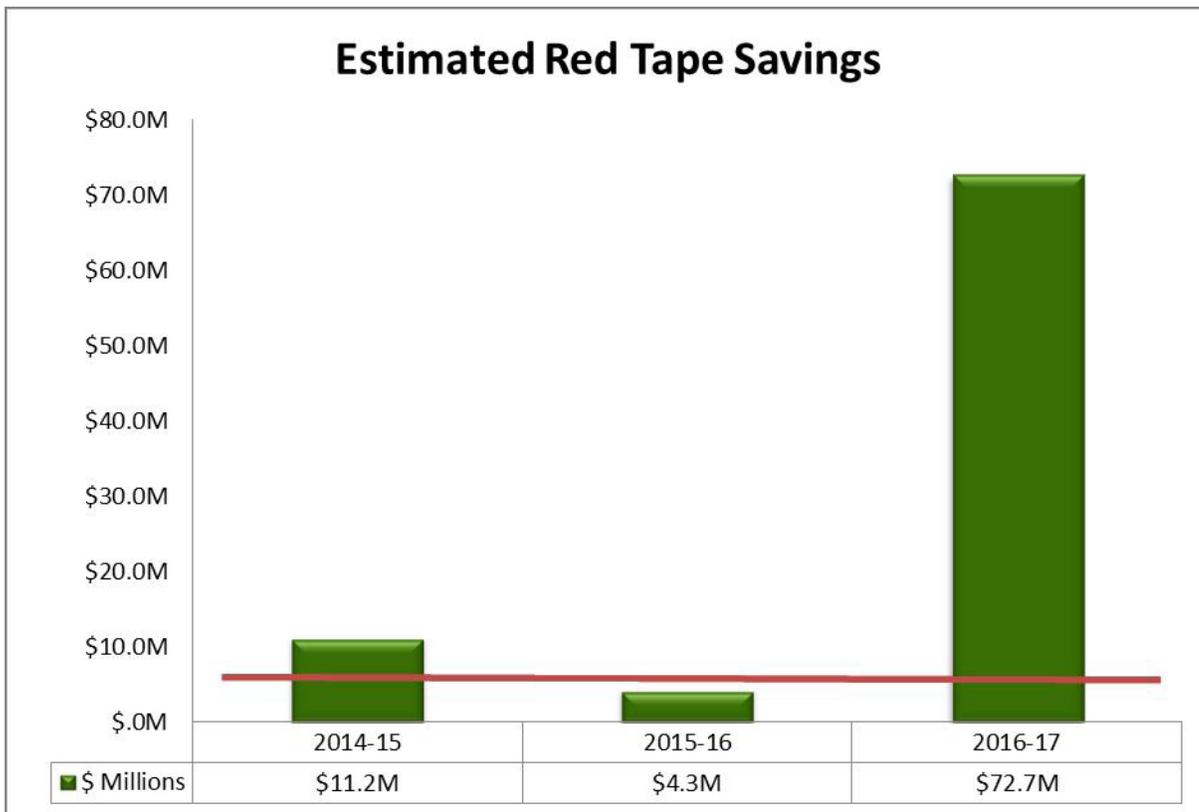
The Direct Cost Estimator

In the past year, the Government of Saskatchewan has continued its efforts to improve regulatory modernization efforts and remove barriers that impede innovation and growth. The measurement of costs and savings associated with regulations has been a valuable means to validate the importance of removing red tape and demonstrating the government's commitment to remain accountable and transparent. However, red tape exists in many compliance requirements created by government, extending past regulations and working their way into forms, policies and procedures.

The Ministry of the Economy expanded its use of a costing tool, known as the Direct Cost Estimator, as a standard approach to reporting red tape reduction initiatives in this year’s report. The ministry had initially set a target of red tape reduction savings of \$5 million annually¹. With increased awareness by ministries, agencies and crowns to both identify and root out red tape and expanded application of the direct cost estimator, the Government of Saskatchewan was able to identify over \$72.7 million in red tape savings. Given the success in achieving significant red tape savings, the Government of Saskatchewan will increase its target for reducing red tape in 2017-18.

Estimated Red Tape Savings

Year	\$ Millions
2014-15	\$11.2
2015-16	\$4.3
2016-17	\$72.7



Ministry of Government Relations

The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards (Sprinklers) Amendment Regulations, 2016

Saskatchewan is committed to ensuring consistency with the *National Building Code, 2010 (NBC)* and its standards. However, the province understood some of the standards caused severe financial implications to operators of Alternative Family Care Homes dedicated to supporting seniors and individuals with mental illness and/or intellectual disabilities.

¹ The red line in the chart represents annual savings of \$5 million for both internal and external stakeholders—for each year over a 10 year period applying inflation and discounting rates.

The NBC 2010 as amended for use in Saskatchewan adopted May 1, 2013, initially required fire sprinklers for Alternative Family Care Homes if any occupant in care was not capable of self-preservation. The cost of meeting the NBC 2010 requirements was estimated to be between \$14 and \$18 million. Upon this further clarification of the impact, the Government of Saskatchewan directed a more balanced approach to fire sprinkler requirements in Alternative Family Care Homes. To balance the challenges of occupant safety, cost of implementation and retaining operators, a regulatory amendment relaxing fire sprinkler requirements for homes with five or fewer occupants was put in force in June 2016. The cost saving is estimated at \$2.5 million in 2016, \$6 million in 2017, \$6 million in 2018 and \$1.5 million in 2019.

In 2016, the Ministry of Government Relations worked with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Services to alleviate potential financial hardships on operators providing care to seniors and individuals with mental illness and/or intellectual disabilities. The regulation amendments will save approximately 450 operators an estimated \$35,500 each.

The three ministries developed fire safety policies for homes supplementary to the NBC, with a focus on fire prevention. The Alternative Family Care Homes (AFCH) Fire Safety Committee was initiated and is comprised of officials from the three ministries as well as the Saskatchewan Approved Private Homes Inc. and the City of Regina, Regina Fire and Protection Services. This committee has been working together to further refine the fire safety prevention policies, put together information guides on the NBC requirements and polices, and establish a training and implementation plan. The work of this committee will continue over the next few months as they continue towards the finalization of the guide and establishing an implementation plan.

Farm Buildings

The practice of farming and farm operations are important to Saskatchewan and the fabric of society. Over time, farming has changed because of new technology, innovative practices and the corporatization of farm operations. Large farming operations have seen increased livestock volumes. The government continues to support primary agriculture producers in their efforts to meet the demands of citizens in Saskatchewan and around the world.

In 2015, a rural municipality building official ordered a farm building owner to comply with industrial occupancy classification requirements of the *National Building Code 2010* (NBC). The owner appealed the order to the Saskatchewan Building and Accessibility Standards Appeal Board (Board), and after a second hearing, the board revoked the order. Revoking the order confirmed farm buildings are exempt from the NBC, based on the definition of farm building in *The Uniform and Building Accessibility Standards Act*. The Ministry responded to the board's ruling and amended *The Uniform and Building Accessibility Standards Regulations (Regulations)* to clarify the term "commercial operations" found in the definition of farm building. As a result, large farm buildings that may have once been considered commercial operations continue to be exempt. Farm buildings are not classified by *The Uniform Building and Accessibility Standards Act* by size, intensity or ownership model, and as a result continue to be exempt.

Agriculture producers are expected to save \$25 million over 10 years because of the regulatory clarification that will not require farm buildings to meet NBC standards. The financial evidence is based on information from Statistics Canada examining 2015 farm building values in Saskatchewan, coupled with data from economic forecasts for growth in the agriculture sector.

The changes to the regulations support government's commitment to Saskatchewan agriculture, as farmers and their families strive to contribute to the growing economy.

Ministry of Health

The Food Safety Amendment Regulations, 2016

The Food Safety Regulations pursuant to *The Public Health Act, 1994*, address food safety-related requirements at food facilities (e.g. public eating establishments and food processing operations).

As a result of Saskatchewan residents feeling that the regulations pertaining to home food processing and sales were too restrictive, the Government of Saskatchewan amended *The Food Safety Regulations* to remove barriers in order to allow the sale of home-processed foods directly to the public and retailers in the province. These amendments are the first in Canada to specifically address the operation of home-based food businesses.

The amended regulations took effect on August 1, 2016 and apply to the sale of low-risk foods such as breads, biscuits, cookies, pastries, fruit pies, jams, jellies and candies.

This change in regulations enables home food processors to sell their products more broadly — beyond farmers' markets and community events — allowing residents to enjoy locally-processed foods. At the same time, the regulations ensure that reasonable safeguards are in place to protect the public. Home food processors are required to take food safety training, ensure their water supply is safe and to label their products so that consumers know their origin.

Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority

Liquor Retail Modernization

In November 2015, after province-wide public and stakeholder consultations, the Government of Saskatchewan announced a series of wide-ranging changes to the liquor retailing sector, to be implemented in 2016-17. The announced liquor retail modernization changes, effective October 9, 2016, focused on removing red tape for liquor retailers while improving choice, convenience and competitive pricing for consumers.

Red tape was reduced through the creation of a level playing field for all liquor retailers. Under the level playing field, all liquor retailers (including former Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) stores, private full-line stores, franchises and off-sales) have been issued retail store permits and now operate under the same regulatory regime. These are significant changes from the previous regulatory regimes where each type of retailer was subject to a different set of rules despite oftentimes selling identical products and competing directly.

Under the terms of the new retail store permit, business decisions about basic operational issues like store hours, product selection and pricing are left to each retail store permittee. Retail stores are also able to sell beverage alcohol directly to other commercial permittees, creating a new opportunity for growth and business development. At the same time, commercial permittees now have increased flexibility in sourcing product and can negotiate the terms of sale with individual retailers.

The new SLGA wholesale price, accessible to all retail store permittees, complements the level playing field by ensuring that all liquor retailers (including SLGA retail stores) now pay exactly the same price when purchasing beverage alcohol from SLGA's distribution centre. Previously, variable discounts were provided to different types of liquor retailers. Liquor retailers can now also negotiate directly with suppliers and manufacturers to obtain additional discount prices, creating marketing opportunities for suppliers and price variations for consumers.

Together, the introduction of the level playing field and the SLGA wholesale price allow businesses directly and indirectly impacted by these changes to take advantage of a wide range of new opportunities for growth and development, and provide a liquor retailing environment that is more responsive to consumers.

The changes supporting liquor retail modernization were introduced through *The Liquor Retail Modernization Act*, *The Alcohol Control Regulations, 2016*, as well as changes to internal programs and policies. The initiative satisfied a widespread desire among members of the public and the beverage alcohol industry for changes to the liquor retailing environment and has been broadly supported since the initial announcement.

Craft Alcohol Review

In September 2016, the (SLGA) began introducing changes to reduce red tape and improve market access for Saskatchewan's craft alcohol producers. These changes, which involved significant industry and stakeholder consultation, were made in association with the release of the Craft Alcohol Review report.

To promote business growth and development for craft alcohol producers, significant efforts were made to reduce red tape. Red tape reduction was achieved by:

- Allowing retail stores to sell craft cider in growlers;
- Allowing craft alcohol producers to charge for samples to be consumed on-site;
- Allowing craft alcohol producers to establish or use off-site aging and warehousing facilities; and
- Working to establish an online hub for the craft alcohol industry to support the development of the industry and the application process for new entrants.

Improving market access for craft alcohol producers was a key objective of the changes introduced in 2016-17. Market access has been improved by:

- Allowing craft alcohol producers to establish a retail store away from their manufacturing site;
- Expanding the products a craft producer can sell in an associated retail store to alcohol manufactured by any craft producer in the province;
- Enabling craft alcohol producers to direct-deliver craft alcohol products to retail stores and commercial permittees (previously only commercial permittees);
- Allowing craft alcohol producers to serve and sell craft alcohol products produced by any craft alcohol producer (e.g., guest taps for growler fills) in hospitality suites;
- Significantly increasing production thresholds and introducing tiered markups and levies;
- Creating a refreshment beverage product category with associated markups and production levies to support the development of craft ciders and coolers;
- Enabling craft alcohol producers to establish a retail store away from the production facility; and
- Allowing craft alcohol producers to establish their own prices for products also distributed by the SLGA.

The SLGA is also actively working to support the growth of the craft alcohol industry in the province. Notably, SLGA Retail is providing craft alcohol training to retail employees so that they are able to more effectively promote craft alcohol products.

The changes stemming from the Craft Alcohol Review are designed to facilitate the continued growth and development of the craft alcohol industry in Saskatchewan, and provide individual craft alcohol producers with increased flexibility and access to a wide range of new opportunities. It is anticipated that there will also be indirect benefits for related industries, particularly tourism and agriculture, as craft alcohol producers become more established and increase production throughout the province.

Changes reducing red tape and facilitating continued growth in the craft alcohol industry were implemented through amendments to *The Alcohol Control Regulations, 2016* and SLGA policies.

Water Security Agency

The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016

The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016 is designed to support and strengthen the Agricultural Water Management Strategy developed in 2015. The main focus of the amendment is to update drainage complaints, moving from a formal complaint process to a request for assistance process. This amendment complements last year's revisions to *The Water Security Agency Regulations* that started the shift to a more proactive system.

The old formal drainage complaint process focused on neighbor-to-neighbour disputes. It was complicated, expensive and took years to resolve drainage complaints. The formal process required Water Security Agency (WSA) officials to understand the complaint, investigate the works and the damage it caused, implement a recommendation or solution, and then, if required, enforce it.

The new approach to drainage requires all agricultural drainage works to be approved. If a complaint is received by WSA, the first step is to see if the drainage work has an approval and if it does not, the landowner will need to obtain an approval or close the drainage works. By obtaining an approval, the damages that are alleged to be caused by the drainage works will be mitigated or eliminated. Changing the system from a reactive complaint system to a proactive, approval-based system brings many benefits. WSA will use less time solving drainage complaints and refocus that time on assisting with new drainage projects. Agricultural producers will have more protection from unauthorized drainage, work with easy-to-follow rules that are consistent throughout the province, and see timelier resolutions on drainage complaints. Because the process now focuses on approval of all drainage works, there is no role for the Water Appeal Board, which was responsible for the assessment of damages and corrective measures required to be taken to mitigate the damages.

The Water Security Agency Amendment Act, 2016 also addresses the outdated fine penalty, by raising the maximum \$10,000 per day penalty to \$1,000,000 per day under the Act. The fine structure will now be in line with *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*. Fines are levied by the Courts in a summary judgment procedure provided for under the Act and can be assessed in various situations, including using water without a permit, constructing a dam without an approval and non-compliance with an order related to drainage works.

The Water Power Regulations

In 2016-17, *The Regulations Governing the Administration of Provincial Water Power* was repealed and replaced with *The Water Power Regulations*. The old regulations had been in place since 1943 and were intended to not only regulate the use of water in hydropower generation, but also address the export of electricity produced by hydro and regulate transmission lines.

The Water Power Regulations updates the outdated language found in the old regulations, and removes those sections outside the scope of WSA's mandate (such as the rules around transmission lines). The new regulations also encourage future development including the proposed water power generation development in the province by reducing the red tape in the licensing process. This was timely work as the new regulations are in place for the proposed Tazi Twé development by SaskPower and Black Lake First Nation.

Ministry of Justice

Repealing Outdated Regulations

The Ministry of Justice, through the ongoing efforts of the legislative drafting area, have implemented a process of repealing out-of-date, redundant or expired regulations. This initiative is intended to avoid confusion for stakeholders and members of the public as to what regulations may apply to their circumstances, by repealing those that no longer serve any purpose. This review has also assisted in identifying the regulations that require updating or revision rather than outright repeal. The attached chart reflects recent efforts in this regard.

2007-2016

REPEALED REGULATIONS BY YEAR

Year	Repeals
2007	12
2008	9
2009	22
2010	27
2011	12
2012	9
2013	10
2014	30
2015	21
2016	55
TOTALS	207

The numbers do not include regulations made, amended or repealed under *The Government Organization Act* or *The Executive Government Administration Act* that deal solely with creating, amending or disestablishing government ministries and offices. All other types of regulations are included. Not all new regulations covered in the Table are business related regulations. Some deal with social assistance and health programs provided by the government, such as *The Training Allowance Regulations* or *The Saskatchewan Assistance Regulations*. Some deal with matters that govern the internal affairs of government agencies, such as *The Information Technology Office Service Regulations*. Others deal with the administration of justice, such as *The Victims of Crime Regulations*.

Expanding Online Tools and Solutions

The internet and technology have revolutionized the way businesses operate and interact with government. They have allowed the government to improve regulatory services by providing better access to information—making it easier and faster to submit applications and seek approvals. There is an overall reduction in administrative time both for the government and the client to process documents. The internet and technology also have also provided clients with the ability to submit applications day or night, at times convenient for them.

Some initiatives that the government has implemented to further expand online regulatory tools, solutions and technologies include the following:

Ministry of Advanced Education

Student Portal Red Tape Reduction Initiative

The Ministry of Advanced Education is committed to improving client service. Staff and students have experienced challenges with the Canada-Saskatchewan Integrated Student Loan Program, due to complex paper forms and processes.

The ministry completed a value stream mapping exercise in November 2016 to better understand the current state of the student loan application process and to identify areas for improvement. Post-secondary students were involved in a feedback session to provide feelings, expectations and ideas.

The proposed future state of the process includes:

- Improved communication to applicants about the application's status and understanding of funds provided;
- Increased electronic availability of information and status for students; thereby, reducing time for students and ministry staff to send and receive information; and
- Improved and simplified application form.

As part of its plan to achieve this future state, the ministry updated the Advanced Education Student Portal to permit electronic viewing of assessment letters in December 2016. The update provides students with information sooner, and reduces the risk of mailing letters to out-of-date addresses. Overall, this update will result in reduced wait times for students to receive their assessment. The ministry will save time and money because it will be sending far fewer letters. Actual cost and time savings will be calculated in 2017-18, as part of further program changes and anticipated online portal updates.



Post-secondary students meet with ministry staff at a value stream mapping event on applying for student loans. The event resulted in a change providing faster and more secure service to students at lower cost to government

Ministry of the Economy

Economic dashboard

In spring 2015, the Ministry of the Economy identified a need for a central data portal, for the following reasons:

- Inefficiencies and limitations in the current system;
- Inconsistent and duplicated data sets managed across government; and
- Growing client demand for online data.

A primary limitation in the current system is the static reports and briefing notes being used to disseminate important economic information. The static documents currently published online and distributed briefing notes often do not reflect the most current data shortly after being posted and do not reflect revisions made to historical data, reducing their relevancy. Issues stemming from the current data sharing model stem from time-intensive processes, error-prone static documents, and poor accessibility. One of these reports is the Monthly Economic Indicators Report (MEIR), which is a lengthy report distributed monthly to a variety of internal and external clients—to provide an update on economic trends.

The Ministry of the Economy, in partnership with the Central Services Digital Team, developed Saskatchewan's Economic Dashboard, a digital platform that automates and centralizes the management and communication of economic information. Launched in winter 2017, key benefits are derived in the form of efficiency and customer satisfaction.

Reduction in the amount of time spent handling basic requests and updating static reports/briefing notes will allow more time to be allocated to strategic operational tasks. Having automated functions pulling data from a single source built into the tool also reduces the risk of human error or inconsistent data analysis between ministries or divisions. The tool also creates an interactive experience for the user, as opposed to one-way communication, by allowing them to select and customize the data graphs to best suit their needs.

The ministry's internal savings as a result of discontinuing the MEIR document and corresponding database is estimated to be \$130,000 over 10 years.

Ministry of Health

The Prescription Drugs Amendment Regulations, 2017

The Prescription Drugs Regulations have provisions that stipulate the actions which must be followed for an eligible individual to receive benefits under the Ministry of Health's Seniors' Drug Plan and the Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL) program.

The amendments to the regulations streamline the process for receipt of benefits under the SAIL program, by improving electronic access to the information that is necessary to ensure an individual's eligibility. The amendments also make it easier and faster for an eligible individual to receive benefits under the Seniors' Drug Plan, by eliminating the need for seniors who are covered under the Saskatchewan Senior's Income Plan and Guaranteed Income supplement to apply for benefits.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

CropConnect

CropConnect is a web interface application that allows Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation's customers to access and update information relating to their Crop Insurance coverage. CropConnect was enhanced in 2016 to allow producers to register their own claims and key their declaration information, in order to impact claim turnaround positively.

Another enhancement allows staff to have direct access to the application. This provides staff with the ability to see how the application is working for the producer and gives staff the background knowledge needed to assist producers with CropConnect questions.

Saskatchewan Government Insurance

Streamlining Permit Approvals

The Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) Permit Office is responsible for issuing permits for heavy trucks used for commercial and farm purposes. When there is an application for a permit for trucks heavier than a certain threshold, the permit had to be sent electronically to bridge engineers at the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure. The engineers then do an analysis to ensure any bridges along the route could successfully handle the load. The engineers provide their determination to the Permit Office, which then contacts the customer to advise. For routes that did not cross any bridges, the engineers were still following the process of going into the permit, assessing the route, determining there were no bridges, approving the permit and notifying SGI electronically.

In October 2016, the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure gave the Permit Office authority to issue permits over the bridge weight threshold for routes that do not have bridges on them. The Permit Office can review the route and, if there are no bridges involved, issue the permits immediately as opposed to the customer waiting hours, or even days in extreme cases.

In addition, the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is open only during business hours Monday through Friday and closed on statutory holidays, whereas the Permit Office is open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., closing only on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. This enables permits not involving bridges to be approved even when the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure office is closed.

To put the permit volume in perspective, on one particular day there were 150 relevant permit applications. Of these, 96 were for routes without bridges, so were approved immediately. This will eliminate heavy haul truck driver's unnecessary waiting time for approvals, amounting to \$4.4 million over the next 10 years.

Plain Paper Registrations

Vehicle registrations can now be printed on plain white paper, rather than on special green card stock paper. This means customers who register a vehicle using SGI's online service, MySGI, no longer have to wait for their registration certificate in the mail – they can print it at home. Furthermore, any customer with a MySGI account can access their registration certificate online, and print it off at any time – even if they did not renew online. This will save SGI \$3.8 million over the next 10 years.

These changes also include e-Registration, allowing customers to provide their registration to law enforcement through their digital device.

Regulatory Alignment across Jurisdictions

In an increasingly globalized marketplace, Saskatchewan businesses operate across domestic and international borders with increased frequency. Regulations that are out-of-step with other jurisdictions can be frustrating to businesses that must comply with multiple sets of regulations that can be duplicative or in conflict. The Government of Saskatchewan is working to streamline regulations with local, provincial and federal jurisdictions to facilitate the movement of goods and services across borders with fewer burdens to the provider or consumer.

Development of smart regulations requires:

- Research of best practices be completed across a variety of jurisdictions; and
- The best practices are adapted to Saskatchewan's local needs.

The following initiatives have been implemented to improve inter-jurisdictional alignment:

Ministry of Agriculture

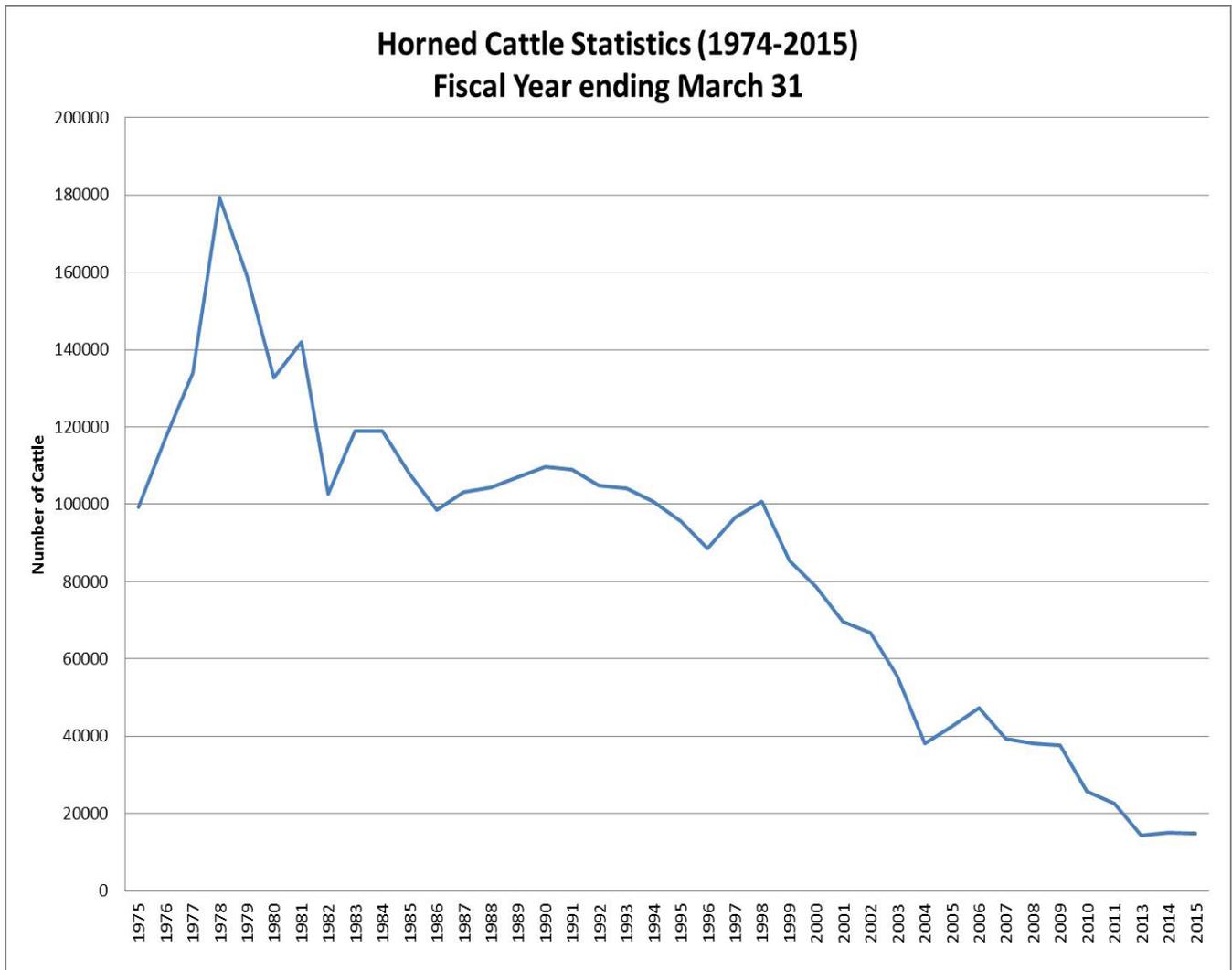
Legislation Repeal

The Horned Cattle Purchases Act came into force in July 1939 to penalize the marketing of cattle with horns in Saskatchewan. In 1940, the penalty applied to approximately 40,400 cattle, or 19 per cent of cattle marketed that year. At its peak in 1977-78, the penalty applied to 180,000 cattle. However, in recent years, only 15,000 to 17,000 head of cattle have been affected. That is approximately one per cent of cattle marketed.

The decline in the number of horned cattle is due to an increase in the use of polled (hornless) genetics in common breeds of cattle. In addition, the industry has developed and adheres to Codes of Practice which recommend dehorning cattle to decrease the risk of injury to workers and animals, and to minimize economic losses due to carcass bruising.

The repeal of this legislation will save time and resources within industry and government. The legislation required that fees collected from enforcement of the penalty be held in the Horned Cattle Fund. Financial statements needed to be prepared each quarter and an audit of the financial statements was required annually. The legislation required that a Horned Cattle Purchases Act Advisory Committee be appointed to recommend to the Minister of Agriculture how the fund should be used to support industry projects. Repeal of the program will save cattle stakeholders \$0.2 million and government \$0.11 million over the next 10 years.

Collaboration between the Ministry and cattle sector stakeholders on an industry-administered alternative has contributed to stakeholder support of the repeal legislation.



Ministry of the Economy

Measurement Requirements for Oil and Gas Operations

Regulatory requirements with respect to oil and gas measurement were becoming dated, so the Ministry of the Economy began updating them. To minimize the impact of updated requirements on industry, the ministry decided to adopt similar requirements to those currently in place in Alberta.

The main reason for adopting the Alberta requirement is that they were being maintained and updated regularly by measurement experts, and many companies that operated in both Alberta and Saskatchewan were already using the Alberta measurement standards in their Saskatchewan operations to avoid costs and training issues related to implementing different measurement processes for similar operations.

A consultation group was established by inviting regulators in other jurisdictions as well as measurement experts from the industry associations, many of whom were involved with providing input to Alberta with respect to maintaining and updating the Alberta requirements. Industry expressed their appreciation for inclusion in the process and the impetus their Saskatchewan operations now have to recreate success that they have had in Alberta.

The resulting directive is largely harmonized with Alberta, with slight differences between the two jurisdictions highlighted throughout the document. Industry is very pleased to see a complex field like oil and gas measurement with common standards, instead of having to re-learn another regulatory document.

Enhanced Production Audit Program

This oil and gas directive already existed in Alberta, as the compliance program associated with Alberta's Directive 17. With the introduction of an Alberta-harmonized Directive PNG017 in Saskatchewan, ECON saw the opportunity to harmonize the associated compliance program, that is, Directive PNG076: Enhanced Production Audit Program (EPAP).

The measurement requirements outlined in Directive PNG017 are numerous. Demonstrating compliance with the requirements is a significant challenge. EPAP uses a declaration-based self-assessment, where industry indicates that they have audit controls in place to provide assurance that measurement and reporting requirements are being complied with. Again, companies that operate in Alberta and Saskatchewan are well aware of this program.

EPAP uses existing Petrinex functionality to allow industry to self-assess the state of their controls, and a senior executive signs a declaration attesting to their claims.

Industry appreciates consistent regulatory requirements across as many jurisdictions as possible. This simplifies their operations and creates better ease of compliance. It allows industry to more easily move resources among their operations, regardless of borders.

Ministry of Health

The Public Accommodation (Miscellaneous) Amendment Regulations 2016

The Public Accommodation Regulations, pursuant to *The Public Health Act, 1994*, address the operation and maintenance requirements at rental units and/or itinerant use accommodations. This includes hotels, motels, campgrounds, bed and breakfast facilities, outfitters and similar short term accommodations.

In 2016, amendments to these regulations were made to:

- Repeal the approval and licensing provisions that apply to hotels, motels, apartment hotels, bed and breakfast facilities, vacation farms, rental cabins, and outfitters. Campgrounds and recreational camps, e.g. church camps, would continue to be licensed;
- Exempt small campgrounds from the regulations that are limited to recreational vehicles and have fewer than four RV sites;
- Require owners and operators to operate and maintain public accommodations in safe and clean conditions; and
- Address a few housekeeping items.

These regulatory amendments align with the regulations for public accommodations in other provinces. Over the next 10 years, regulation improvements are expected to save owners and operators of public accommodations \$1.68 million and government \$0.38 million in administrative costs.

“EPAP has been a key driver in the identification and resolution of potential measurement and reporting issues. It has also been a driver to bring production accounting, measurement, and field operations together to review/discuss overall measurement and reporting of a property.

EPAP-related discussions often identify other items for investigation and resolution, and the program has resulted in improved communication between teams, which in turn has led to an elevated level of understanding of a property and quite often, resolution of additional action items.”

- **Phil Carpentier, Measurement Coordinator, ARC Resources**

Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety

Hazardous Materials

The Occupational Health and Safety (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System) Regulations amend existing occupational health and safety regulations, to establish a new globally recognized standard for the classification and labeling of chemicals (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals).

The adoption of the new standard will ensure that Saskatchewan’s requirements are consistent with national and international standards. This will reduce the administrative burden on employers and suppliers of re-labeling chemicals received from outside Saskatchewan (nationally and internationally).

To ensure a seamless transition from the existing regulations to the new regulations, employers and suppliers can comply with the new regulations or continue under the existing regulations until December 1, 2018.

Conclusion

Governments nationally and internationally are recognizing the many benefits of a modernized regulatory system, including a growing and prosperous economy. Likewise, Saskatchewan is taking steps to ensure it is on a path to streamline and modernize its regulatory system.

Reducing red tape benefits everyone. Good regulation strives to ensure protection measures are in place, while removing unnecessary rules and barriers. For Saskatchewan residents, it means timely and easy access to government services, while for businesses, it means simplified approval processes and reasonable compliance requirements that do not unduly impact business competitiveness, productivity or growth.

Saskatchewan is taking a two-pronged approach to reduce red tape:

- Preventing red tape from entering the system: The regulatory impact assessment process is being improved, by adopting regulatory governance best practices when regulations are created or amended.
- Addressing red tape in existing regulations and their associated policies, procedures and forms: The government is committed to reviewing all business related regulations within 10 years, in order to identify and eliminate red tape.

Red tape reduction is about continuous improvement. It is about creating and maintaining a modern regulatory environment for citizens, businesses, and the government - one that delivers needed public policy objectives as efficiently as possible.

For More Information

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Appendix

			2016-17 Red Tape Reduction	
			Extended (Amount)	
Ministry/Agency/ Crown	Fiscal Year Initiative Completed	Red Tape Reduction Initiative	Financial Costs †	Operating Costs ◊
Government Relations	2016-17	Utilize municipal revenue sharing to fund ombudsman services for municipal entities		
Economy	2016-17	Reduction in the number of geological drill cuttings to be sent to the Ministry of the Economy by industry		\$2.04
Economy	2016-17	Implementation of the Oil and Gas Tenure Registry in the Integrated Resource Information System (IRIS) for industry		\$0.03
Health/Social Services	2016-17	Exempt new building code sprinkler requirements for Family Care Homes		\$16.05

ation Savings – Running Total *

External Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)			Internal Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)				Page Reference
Administrative Costs Δ	Total External	Financial Costs	Operating Costs	Administrative Costs	Total Internal		
		\$1.99			\$1.99	6	
\$14.00	\$16.05		\$0.30	\$0.11	\$0.41	5	
\$1.72	\$1.75		\$0.03	\$0.28	\$0.30	9	
	\$16.05					11	

2016-17 Red Tape Reduction

			External (Amount)	
Ministry/Agency/ Crown	Fiscal Year Initiative Completed	Red Tape Reduction Initiative	Financial Costs †	Operating Costs †
Agriculture	2016-17	Farm buildings continue to be exempt from the National Building Code		\$25.27
Economy	2016-17	Replace Monthly Economic Indicators Report (MEIR) with Saskatchewan Economics Dashboard		
SGI	2016-17	Streamlining bridge permit approvals		
SGI	2016-17	Allow printing of vehicle registration on plain white paper		

ation Savings – Running Total *

External Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)			Internal Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)				Page Reference
Administrative Costs Δ	Total External	Financial Costs	Operating Costs	Administrative Costs	Total Internal		
	\$25.27					11	
			\$0.13		\$0.13	18	
\$4.41	\$4.41			\$0.12	\$0.12	19	
			\$3.80		3.80	19	

2016-17 Red Tape Reduction

			External Savings (Amount)	
Ministry/Agency/ Crown	Fiscal Year Initiative Completed	Red Tape Reduction Initiative	Financial Costs \uparrow	Operating Costs \diamond
Agriculture	2016-17	Repeal of horned cattle legislation	\$0.20	
Ministry of Health	2016-17	Public Accommodation Regulations		
Total Savings (\$ Millions)			\$0.20	\$43.40
Grand Total - Total External + Total Internal				

Notes:

* The savings identified in this appendix are estimates; intended to represent the impact of the change to stakeholders over a 10 year regulatory review period. The estimates are based upon the best available information (such as Statistics Canada data) and include the application of conservative assumptions for the future (including the application of inflation and net present value to the analysis). They are not intended to represent actual current or projected future savings.

Total Savings are calculated at a point in time, over a 10 year period to allow for consistency in reporting. For example, a reduction of fees for a stakeholder amounting to \$100,000 in year 1 will translate into an approximate savings of \$1M over 10 years (not accounting for inflation and discount value of a dollar)

Financial Costs (savings) refers to any fees payable to the Government of Saskatchewan. This includes fees for permits, licenses, documents, etc.

\diamond Operating Costs (savings) are incremental outlays that arise from complying with regulations. These costs may be one-time costs incurred in the first year of a regulation, or ongoing costs spread out over a number of years. Examples of these are purchases, maintenance costs and equipment repair costs; building space costs; inspections; audits; and new hired labour.

Δ Administrative Costs (savings) respond to time spend completing administrative tasks to meet a number of information requirements including learning about regulations, record keeping and time spend to fill out forms or applications.

External savings are for stakeholders outside of the provincial government. Internal savings are for ministries/agencies or crowns.

ation Savings – Running Total *

External Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)			Internal Savings (Amounts in \$ millions)				
	Administrative Costs Δ	Total External	Financial Costs	Operating Costs	Administrative Costs	Total Internal	Page Reference
		\$0.20			\$0.11	\$0.11	20
	\$1.68	\$1.68			\$0.38	\$0.38	22
	\$21.82	\$65.41	\$1.99	\$4.26	\$1.00	\$7.25	
			\$72,662,240				

