

Growth Plan Summary

The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth sets out the Government of Saskatchewan's vision for a province of 1.2 million people by 2020.

The Plan identifies principles, goals and actions to ensure Saskatchewan is capturing the opportunities and meeting the challenges of a growing province.

The Purpose and Principles of Growth

Too often, enterprise-oriented governments appear to seek growth for the sake of growth. This is a mistake – one that can cause governments to lose focus and discipline.

The purpose of growth is to secure a better quality of life for all Saskatchewan people.

The six core growth activities the Government of Saskatchewan can undertake to foster economic growth and address the challenges of growth have been and always will be:

- **Investing in the infrastructure required for growth.**
- **Educating, training and developing a skilled workforce.**
- **Ensuring the ongoing competitiveness of Saskatchewan's economy.**
- **Supporting increased trade, investment and exports through international engagement.**
- **Advancing Saskatchewan's natural resource strengths, particularly through innovation, to build the next economy.**
- **Ensuring fiscal responsibility through balanced budgets, lower debt and smaller more effective government.**

Just as importantly, the Government of Saskatchewan will not directly intervene in the economy or undertake direct investment in businesses.



Key Goals and Actions

Some of the key goals in The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth include:

- 1.2 million people living in Saskatchewan by 2020;
- 60,000 more people working in Saskatchewan by 2020;
- Cut the provincial debt in half from its 2007 level by 2017;
- Double the value of Saskatchewan's exports by 2020;
- Increase crop production by 10 million tonnes by 2020;
- Increase exports of agricultural and food products from \$10 billion in 2011 to \$15 billion in 2020;
- Reduce the difference in graduation rates between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students by 50 per cent by 2020;
- Lead the country in Grade 12 graduation rates by 2020;
- Reduce surgical wait times to no more than three months by 2014;
- Eliminate wait times in emergency rooms by 2017.

Some of the key actions in The Saskatchewan Plan for Growth include:

- \$2.5 billion invested in infrastructure over the next three years;
- Create SaskBuilds and transfer \$150 million into a new SaskBuilds fund to drive innovation in infrastructure financing, design and delivery, including public-private partnerships;
- Invest \$344 million to add 12,600 new housing units by 2016;
- In partnership with industry, fund half of the cost of the final road to connect Highway 914 in the Athabasca Basin;
- Increase the cap on provincial immigrant nominees from 4,000 to 6,000;
- Eliminate the wait list for Adult Basic Education programs by the end of the government's current term;
- Lower the incorporated business tax rate from 12 to 10 per cent by 2015;
- Maintain a target amount of \$500 million in the Growth and Financial Security Fund with any excess amounts used to invest in infrastructure and reduce debt;
- Continue to balance the budget every year;
- Deliver on a targeted 15 per cent reduction in the size of the public service by 2013-14;
- Provide a new "Saskatchewan's International Future Scholarship" to 20 Saskatchewan students annually to study business at an international institution if they return to Saskatchewan for at least five years after they graduate.

The Saskatchewan Heritage Initiative: The Use of Non-Renewable Resource Revenue in a Debt-Free Saskatchewan

To identify options and provide advice to the Government of Saskatchewan for how best to utilize Saskatchewan's non-renewable natural resource revenue after the province's debt has been fully retired, the Government of Saskatchewan will establish the Saskatchewan Heritage Initiative.