

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN



09-10

PLAN FOR 2009-10

ENTERPRISE
SASKATCHEWAN

PLAN FOR 2009-10

Statement from the Minister



Saskatchewan has been referred to as the rising star of Canada's New West, and perhaps the entire nation. It has become even more prominent in recent months during the profound reversals of national and global economic trends, trends which Saskatchewan—while not completely unaffected—has resisted to a remarkable degree.

But growth, especially at times like these, comes with a critical caveat: it must be sustainable and responsibly managed, or little will be gained. Saskatchewan's economic strength, coinciding with a critical international need to adapt and innovate, represents a brilliant opportunity to chart a course for generations to come.

For unprecedented challenges, the Province has created an unprecedented solution: Enterprise Saskatchewan, a new special operating agency for coordinating the Province's growth agenda. Led by a Board of Directors composed of a comprehensive cross-section of stakeholders and leaders, Enterprise Saskatchewan has one ultimate goal: reducing impediments and barriers to growth to ensure the Province has a competitive environment that attracts investment.

Enterprise Saskatchewan is responsible for helping to deliver on our Government's plan for Securing the Future. Within the following pages you will find our Plan for 2009-10, and how this Plan is a key component of Government's vision for a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, while providing opportunity for a high quality of life for all.

I will report on this Plan and my **Mandate Letter** commitments in Enterprise Saskatchewan's annual report.

*The Honourable Lyle Stewart
Minister Responsible for Enterprise Saskatchewan*

Mission Statement

Enterprise Saskatchewan provides leadership as the central coordinating agency of the Government of Saskatchewan for economic development. In partnership with key stakeholders, Enterprise Saskatchewan advances a transformative sustainable economic growth agenda and develops a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship that encourages investment and population growth, creating prosperity for all Saskatchewan residents.

Response to Government Direction

Ministry and agency plans for 2009-10 align with Government's vision and goals and the key priorities for 2009-10, as presented in the **Government Direction for 2009-10**. The 2009-10 Plan communicates a high-level framework for the Agency's activities over the coming year and reflects the Agency's primary areas of focus. Together, all ministries and agencies support government's three goals, working towards a secure and prosperous Saskatchewan.

Strategies and Actions

Government Goal – Economic Growth

Sustain **Economic Growth** for the benefit of Saskatchewan people, ensuring the economy is ready for growth and positioning Saskatchewan to meet the challenges of economic and population growth and development.

Strategy

Key 2009-10 Actions

Increase economic growth by engaging key stakeholders in economic development planning

- Provide secretariat support to the Enterprise Saskatchewan Board of Directors and forward recommendations to Cabinet.
- Provide secretariat support for Sector Teams and Strategic Issues Councils and advance strategies and recommendations to the Enterprise Saskatchewan Board of Directors.
- Engage regional stakeholders in economic development planning through Enterprise Regions.
- Improve inter-ministry cooperation through increased communication and the use of working/coordinating groups.
- Coordinate development of a provincial infrastructure strategy that links infrastructure planning with economic development priorities.
- Increase cooperation of Crown corporations in economic development activities through the Major Projects Coordination Strategy, regional economic development plans and Sector Team strategies.

Leverage stakeholder relationships to increase investment in Saskatchewan

- Develop an international marketing and investment attraction strategy that coordinates efforts with other government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and industry.
- Organize trade missions to priority markets in partnership with key stakeholders.
- Attend national and international trade shows in key sectors.
- Use in-market consultants outside of Saskatchewan to identify opportunities for investment attraction and collaboration.
- Develop marketing materials and strategies to increase Saskatchewan's visibility in domestic and international markets.

Improve the ease of doing business in Saskatchewan by reducing regulatory barriers and enhancing service delivery

- Develop a regulatory modernization strategy to address regulatory barriers to economic growth.
- Facilitate the adoption of new service-level commitments and standards for ministries and agencies that deal with business.
- Implement an on-line Regulatory Registry as an additional tool to facilitate advance public consultation on proposed regulatory changes.
- Continue to work with other partners to expand and enhance one-stop online services such as Saskbiz and BizPaL.

Strategy	Key 2009-10 Actions
<p>Enhance the economic impact of innovation in Saskatchewan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with government to create Innovation Saskatchewan, an agency to coordinate government support for research, development, and the commercialization of innovation. • Develop an innovation strategy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ Support and encourage industry in its research, development, and commercialization activities; ~ Help industry to become more productive through the use of technology, training, and recruitment of highly-skilled people; and, ~ Maximize the economic benefits flowing from public investments in research. • Coordinate research conducted by federal and provincial agencies in Saskatchewan with innovation priorities. • Encourage Crown corporations to support innovation through strategic procurement and through testing technologies developed in Saskatchewan.
<p>Provide effective economic development programs and services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an economic development toolkit including an updated Competitive Advantage Analysis and statistical profile for each Enterprise Region to support regional economic development activities. • Implement enhancements to the Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporation (LSVCC) program including marketing the Employee Ownership option. • Use the Community Development Trust Fund (CDTF) and Western Economic Partnership Agreement (WEPA) to support high-impact economic development projects.
<p>Foster a culture of entrepreneurship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an entrepreneurship strategy to help entrepreneurs create new businesses or purchase established businesses. • Work with other ministries and stakeholders to enhance entrepreneurship training and programs for youth. • Sponsor a Junior Achievement Summit to promote entrepreneurship to youth.
<p>Increase First Nations and Métis engagement in the economy as partners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Aboriginal Economic Development Partnerships Council. • Work with First Nations and Métis Relations (FNMR), the Clarence Campeau Development Fund, and other partners to increase the capacity of First Nations and Métis people to participate in economic development projects.
<p>Diversify the provincial economy by increasing value-added production to sustain economic growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance Sector Team recommendations to build on sector strengths and reduce barriers to growth. • Advance recommendations of the Uranium Development Partnership, in partnership with Crown Investments Corporation (CIC), to maximize economic benefits from Saskatchewan's uranium resources. • Support strategic industry associations and non-governmental organizations to strengthen emerging sectors of the economy.
<p>Help to close Saskatchewan's labour market supply and demand gap</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of partnerships between industry, labour, First Nations and Métis people and organizations, and training institutions to help close labour market supply and demand gaps.

Government Goal – Security

Secure Saskatchewan as a safe place to live and raise a family where people are confident in their future, ensuring the people of Saskatchewan benefit from the growing economy.

Strategy

Key 2009-10 Actions

Facilitate greater participation of Saskatchewan's young people in the economy

- Establish a Youth Economic Engagement Council and develop a youth economic engagement strategy.
- Work with partners to implement a "Cool Communities" pilot project to appeal to young, highly-skilled workers.
- Ensure youth representation on Enterprise Region governance bodies.
- Promote the Young Professionals networks throughout the province.

Accelerate the growth of sustainable energy industries

- Develop an integrated carbon capture and storage research strategy across the New West.
- Conduct a review of the biofuels sector to better position the industry for growth and investment.
- Advance recommendations of the Uranium Development Partnership report after public consultation to increase value-added processing of Saskatchewan's uranium resources.

Government Goal – Promises

Keep Government's **Promises** and fulfill the commitments of the election, operating with integrity and transparency, accountable to the people of Saskatchewan.

Strategy

Key 2009-10 Actions

Increase federal funding support for Saskatchewan's economic infrastructure

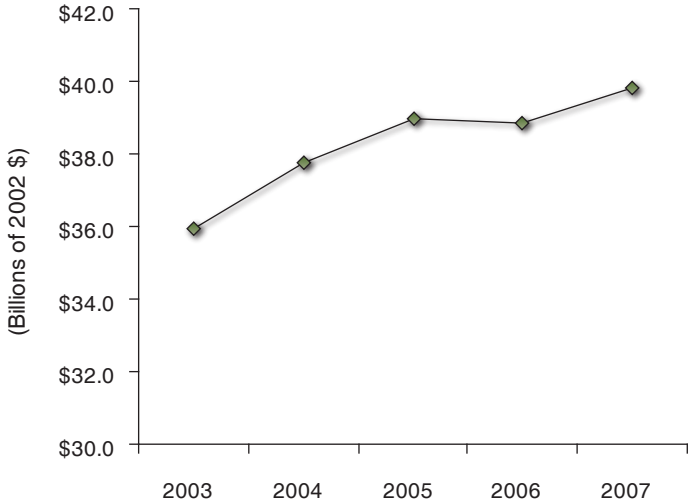
- Develop a strategy for increasing federal funding support for key research infrastructure and other economic development priorities.
- Leverage federal resources to efficiently deliver economic development services in Enterprise Regions.
- Make greater use of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada consular services for marketing and investment attraction.

Ensure transparency and accountability in all aspects of Enterprise Saskatchewan's operations

- Develop an economic benchmark reporting tool for Saskatchewan and report on provincial economic performance.
- Publish semi-annual public reports on Enterprise Saskatchewan's activities and accomplishments, including stewardship over public funds and progress on Board recommendations.
- Evaluate performance of key economic development programs.
- Introduce continuous improvement practices into Enterprise Saskatchewan's office processes to streamline operations.

Performance Measures

Enterprise Saskatchewan is a catalyst whose work impacts the measures below, within the context of an integrated global economy. These measures also are influenced by the broader policy systems of Saskatchewan, Canada, and our trading partners. The following charts and tables are presented as a preliminary set of core indicators and measures for Saskatchewan's economy.

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information
Saskatchewan Real GDP	 <p>Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 384-0002</p>

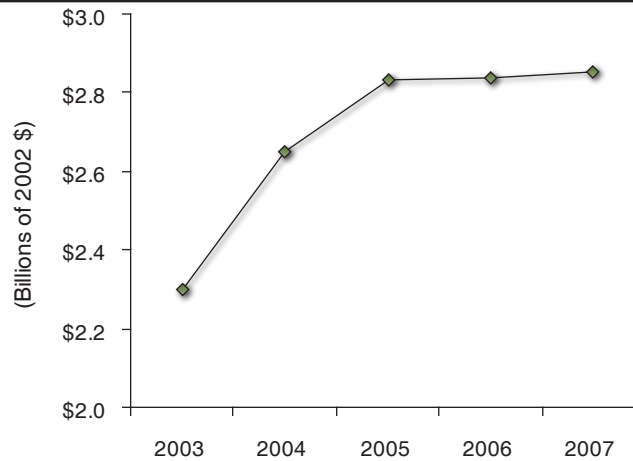
Significance of the Measure

Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the amount of goods and services produced by the provincial economy. It expresses the value of goods and services produced in 2002 dollars, so that rather than reflecting changes in price, only actual changes in output are reported. Rising Real GDP indicates a growing economy and improved standards of living for Saskatchewan residents.

Measure

Baseline / Trend Line Information

Saskatchewan Manufacturing Sector Real GDP

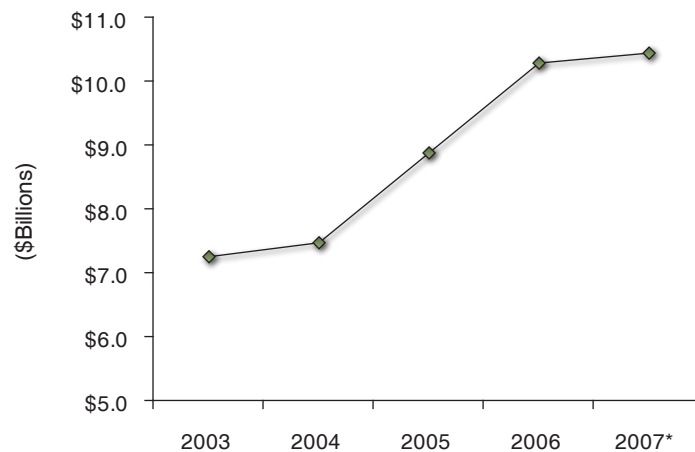


Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 379-0025

Significance of the Measure

Manufacturing sector Real GDP indicates changes in value-added production levels. Output is expressed in 2002 dollars to control for price fluctuations. It measures the combined economic performance of Saskatchewan's manufacturing industries.

Capital Investment in Saskatchewan



Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 029-0005 *Preliminary actual investment for 2007

Significance of the Measure

Capital investment measures the cost of leasing, purchasing, constructing, installing, repairing and maintaining durable plant, machinery and equipment. Capital investment plans not only indicate management views of future prospects for their industry, but also signal the level of satisfaction with the provincial business environment.

Measure

Baseline / Trend Line Information

Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) Program Results

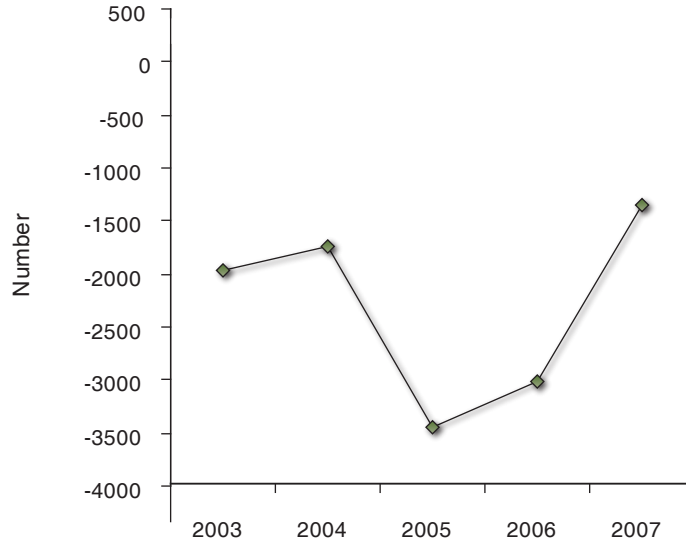
Fiscal Year	Loans (#)	Dollar Amount	Jobs Created	Jobs Maintained	Urban	Rural
2007/08	290	\$3,247,952	479	534	215	798
2006/07	378	\$4,041,431	575	797	221	1,151
2005/06	477	\$4,861,950	513	763	90	1,187
2004/05	577	\$5,056,518	566	1,008	175	1,399
2003/04	487	\$3,430,903	552	581	166	967

Source: Enterprise Saskatchewan

Significance of the Measure

The SBLA program allows local loan associations to access an interest-free line of credit in order to provide capital loans of up to \$15,000 to local businesses. It is one of Enterprise Saskatchewan's most-used programs and an important source of support for small enterprises. "Jobs created" refers to new jobs resulting from SBLA loans; "jobs maintained" refers to existing jobs that were retained as a result of SBLA loans.

Net Interprovincial Migration (Youth Aged 15 to 24)



Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division

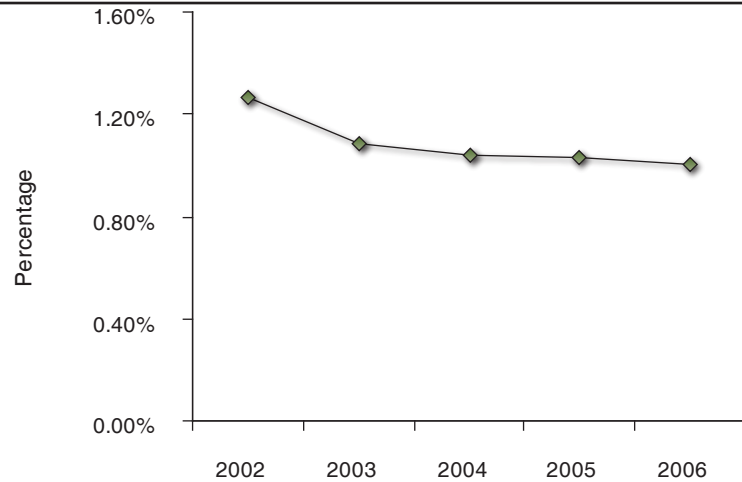
Significance of the Measure

Interprovincial youth net migration trends indicate how successful Saskatchewan is at retaining its young people. If youth are engaged in the economy and have positive perceptions of opportunities in Saskatchewan, they will more likely stay in the province.

Measure

Baseline / Trend Line Information

Saskatchewan Gross Domestic Expenditures on research and development as a per cent of GDP

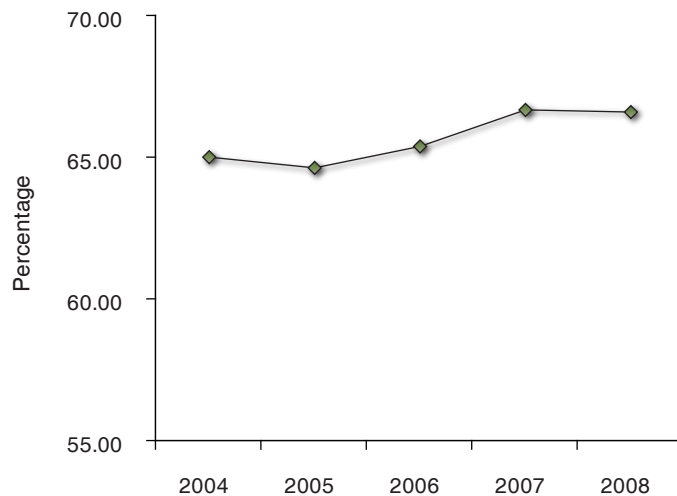


Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 358-0001

Significance of the Measure

The amount of money spent on research and development in relation to the size of the economy is an important indicator of Saskatchewan's innovative capacity, and also reflects the province's capacity to adopt productivity-enhancing technologies developed elsewhere.

Saskatchewan Off-Reserve Aboriginal Employment Rate (15 Years and Older)



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Significance of the Measure

The Aboriginal employment rate is a high-level indicator of how successfully Saskatchewan's Aboriginal people are being integrated into the provincial economy. Achieving higher Aboriginal employment rates is a central element in strategies to meet future labour market needs in Saskatchewan.

Financial Summary

Highlights of Appropriation and Expense 2009-10

2009-10 Estimates	(in thousands of dollars)
Enterprise Saskatchewan	47,305
Operations	21,804
Programs	25,501
Total Appropriation	47,305
Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Capital Asset Amortization	--
Agency Expense	47,305

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at:
<http://www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget/2009-10>

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Key highlights for Enterprise Saskatchewan's 2009-10 Budget include:

- Government has allocated \$5.3 million to the Enterprise Regions Program, a renewed approach to regional economic development that replaces the Regional Economic Development Authorities.
- Economic growth in Saskatchewan will be further stimulated by a \$5.1 million investment in the Western Economic Partnership Agreement, a federal/provincial partnership that helps Saskatchewan strengthen its key sectors and provides businesses with more tools to succeed in the knowledge-driven global marketplace.
- The Strategic Investment Fund will receive \$3.8 million to support initiatives such as research capacity, the development of innovative products and processes, and other projects of strategic economic importance.
- Communities and workers negatively affected by international economic volatility will be assisted by \$8.4 million in funding provided through the federally-funded Community Development Trust Fund.

For More Information

Please visit the www.enterprisesaskatchewan.ca for more information on the Ministry's programs and services.