

Budget Basics

The Government of Saskatchewan’s budget includes the full nature and extent of the financial affairs and resources controlled by the government based on standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), which are used to prepare the Summary Financial Statements (SFS).

The determination of control – the power to govern the financial and operating policies of another entity with the expectation of benefits or risks from the other entity’s activities – requires consideration of the particular circumstances of each case. As a result, Canadian jurisdictions may reach different conclusions about entities that provide similar services when assessing control for their provincial entities.

The budget classifies the entities in the Government Reporting Entity (GRE) as Government Business Enterprises (GBEs), Government Service Organizations (GSOs) or partnerships.

GBEs are self-sufficient and have the financial and operating authority to sell goods and services to individuals and entities outside the GRE as their principal activity. These entities include:

- Municipal Financing Corporation of Saskatchewan
- Saskatchewan Auto Fund
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance
- Liquor and Gaming Authority
- Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan
- Saskatchewan Power Corporation
- Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation
- Saskatchewan Water Corporation
- SaskEnergy Incorporated
- Workers’ Compensation Board (Saskatchewan)

Partnerships are contractual relationships between the government and one or more partners outside the GRE where the partners share control of governance decisions and, on an equitable basis, the risks and benefits of the partnership.

All other entities in the GRE are GSOs. GSOs typically provide public services and receive government grants to sustain their operations. Some GSOs may sell services but are not self-sufficient and require subsidization. GSOs include the General Revenue Fund (GRF) and entities like school boards and regional colleges.

A list of all entities included in the GRE is provided starting on page 6.

Spending authority

Spending authority for government ministries is provided by the Legislative Assembly through approval of the Budget Estimates and *The Appropriation Act*. Spending authority for other entities is provided through their separate legislation.

Accounting basis

The budget and supporting schedules are prepared on a basis consistent with PSAB standards used in the province's SFS that are published in the Public Accounts – Volume 1. The most recent Public Accounts are available in the Ministry of Finance publications at:

<http://publications.saskatchewan.ca/>.

The method of consolidation in the budget is consistent with the policies described in the SFS. The budgeted revenue and expense of GSOs and partnerships are consolidated after adjusting for significant differences in accounting policies and eliminating significant inter-entity transactions. For partnerships, only the government's proportionate share of revenues, expenses and transactions are consolidated. Budgets for GBEs are included as a single amount using the modified equity method, which consists of the government's proportionate share of net earnings or losses.

The budget is prepared for the government's fiscal year ending March 31. Government entities included in the budget may have different fiscal years and different budget development cycles. As a result, the revenue and expense projections included in the budget may not always represent an entity's final board-approved budget. Inclusion of preliminary or projected plans for those entities does not lessen or replace the governance responsibility of the individual boards of directors to develop and approve formal budgets.

For those entities whose fiscal year-end is not March 31, the budget includes the entity's budget for the most recent fiscal year ending before March 31. Adjustments are made for any significant transactions in the period between the entity's fiscal year-end and the government's March 31 year-end.

Pension liabilities and expense

Pensions are budgeted using the accounting policies described in the SFS. The budgeted

Schedule of Pension Liabilities includes the pension obligations for all GSOs.

Debt

Gross debt is the amount of money owed to lenders through the issuance of debt instruments such as promissory notes and debentures.

Gross debt is comprised of general debt and GBE-specific debt. GSOs issue general debt, either through the GRF (the primary operating account of the Government of Saskatchewan) or by borrowing directly on their own behalf.

GBE debt includes both general debt and GBE-specific debt, which is incurred primarily for investment in infrastructure and business development initiatives that generate revenue streams to service the debt.

Gross debt can also be categorized as taxpayer-supported debt and self-supported debt. Taxpayer-supported debt is debt of government entities that are not GBEs and includes amounts borrowed by Executive Government for the purpose of GRF operations, Saskatchewan Capital Plan and other GSOs. Self-supported debt is debt borrowed for GBEs that is supported by business operations.

Revenue

Revenue is classified into five categories: Taxation, Non-Renewable Resources, Net Income from GBEs, Other Own-Source Revenue and Transfers from the Federal Government.

- Taxation Revenue is primarily collected by the GRF and includes personal and corporation income tax, provincial sales tax, property tax, fuel tax, tobacco and vapour products tax, cannabis excise duty, insurance premiums tax and capital tax on financial institutions and crown corporations.
- Non-Renewable Resources Revenue is collected as royalties, freehold taxes on potash, oil and natural gas, helium, uranium, coal and other minerals. It also includes proceeds from Mineral Disposition Public Offerings and the resource surcharge levied on the value of oil, potash, natural gas, uranium and coal sales.
- Net Income from GBEs represents the net income of all GBEs included in the SFS on a modified equity basis.

- Other Own-Source Revenue is made up of fees for services, licences, proceeds from the sale of goods and services, premiums collected by insurance entities, investment income, transfers from other governments and other miscellaneous sources of revenue. Most entities generate own-source revenue.
- Transfers from the Federal Government is comprised primarily of the Canada Health Transfer and the Canada Social Transfer, as well as transfers under other agreements with the federal government, which include infrastructure, housing and agricultural programs.

Expense

Expense is classified into 11 themes, as follows:

- The *Agriculture theme* includes expenses to assist and improve the agriculture and food industry through development activities, including research, education, regulation and investment in the sector, as well as providing direct support to farmers through loans, income stabilization and insurance programs.
- The *Community Development theme* includes expenses to maintain and develop engaged and vibrant communities, including financial assistance and infrastructure funding to local governments and other authorities, which provide community services. Community Development also includes funding directed to specific community services such as sport, culture, arts and heritage that improve quality of life.
- The *Economic Development theme* includes expenses to strengthen, expand and diversify Saskatchewan's economy, as well as promote trade and growth in export markets. The expenses arise from activities such as research, marketing, product development, financing, financial assistance, technology and infrastructure. Economic Development also includes the strategic management of Saskatchewan's non-renewable resources to support future economic activity.
- The *Education theme* includes expenses to develop and maintain a quality prekindergarten through post-secondary education system that is designed to impart knowledge and information, including activities that encourage ongoing learning and the acquisition of specialized skills, as well as providing supports to help students be successful. The

Education theme also includes funding for early learning and childcare.

- The *Environment and Natural Resources theme* includes expenses to protect and improve the quality of the environment through the management of fish, wildlife, forests and land; recycling; and the prevention and clean-up of environmental hazards.
- The *Financing Charges theme* includes expenses associated with general debt, including interest, foreign exchange gains and losses, discounts and premiums, fees and commissions. It also includes financing costs related to pension and other employee future benefits liabilities, obligations under long-term financing arrangements, such as public-private partnerships, and capital lease obligations.
- The *General Government theme* includes expenses for centralized government services, including government contributions to, and management of, employee benefit plans; property, vehicle and information technology management; collection of government revenues; formation of budgetary policy; preparation and audit of the government's public accounts; and the constitutional, political and law enactment aspect of the government.
- The *Health theme* includes expenses to support, maintain and restore the physical and mental health of Saskatchewan residents. Health expense primarily includes the delivery of health services through acute, emergency, rehabilitative, long-term, community-based and home-based care; cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment programs; prevention and control of infectious diseases; subsidization of prescription drugs; and the education and promotion of healthy lifestyles.
- The *Protection of Persons and Property theme* includes expenses to promote and ensure the security, safety and protection of residents and property, which is mainly achieved through a fair justice system, policing programs and supervision and rehabilitation services for offenders. Protection of Persons and Property also includes services that promote, support and enforce safe work practices and employment standards; provincial emergency management through 911 services, public safety, disaster assistance and wildfire management; and victims' services.
- The *Social Services and Assistance theme* includes expenses to provide financial assistance and services to individuals and families in need because of poverty, abuse, neglect and disability. This includes income support programs, accessible and safe housing, child protection services, adoption services and providing life's needs to persons with intellectual disabilities.

- The *Transportation theme* includes expenses for the development, construction and maintenance of an integrated provincial transportation system using highways, rural roads, bridges, ferry crossings, airstrips and communication networks.

Government entities

The Government Reporting Entity consists of entities classified as Government Service Organizations, Government Business Enterprises or partnerships. The listing below reports the entities under these classifications segregated by segments, which are based on functional groupings of activities or themes.

Government Service Organizations and partnerships by theme

Agriculture

Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan
 Crop Reinsurance Fund of Saskatchewan
 Ministry of Agriculture
 Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute
 Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc. (*partnership - entity under shared control*)^{1a}
 Saskatchewan Agricultural Stabilization Fund
 Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Community Development

Community Initiatives Fund
 Government House Foundation
 Ministry of Education^{2b}
 Ministry of Government Relations^{2a}
 Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport^{2a}
 Northern Municipal Trust Account^{1d}
 Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan
 Provincial Capital Commission
 Saskatchewan Arts Board
 Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts Fund
 Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation
 Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation
 Saskatchewan Snowmobile Fund
 Western Development Museum Fund

Economic Development

Creative Saskatchewan
 CIC Asset Management Inc.^{2a}
 Global Transportation Hub Authority
 Innovation Saskatchewan

Ministry of Energy and Resources
 Ministry of Environment^{2b}
 Ministry of Finance^{2b}
 Ministry of Immigration and Career Training^{2b}
 Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement^{2b}
 Ministry of Trade and Export Development
 Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation
 Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment Finance Corporation
 Saskatchewan Research Council^{2a}
 SaskBuilds Corporation
 Tourism Saskatchewan

Education

Battlefords First Nations Joint Board of Education
 (*partnership – entity under shared control*)^{1c}
 Boards of Education^{1c}
 Chinook School Division No. 211
 Christ the Teacher Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 212
 Conseil des écoles fransaskoises no. 310
 Creighton School Division No. 111
 Good Spirit School Division No. 204
 Holy Family Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 140
 Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 22
 Horizon School Division No. 205
 Ile-a-la Crosse School Division No. 112
 Light of Christ Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 16
 Living Sky School Division No. 202

Lloydminster Roman Catholic Separate School
Division No. 89
Lloydminster School Division No. 99
North East School Division No. 200
Northern Lights School Division No. 113
Northwest School Division No. 203
Prairie South School Division No. 210
Prairie Spirit School Division No. 206
Prairie Valley School Division No. 208
Prince Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division
No. 6
Regina Roman Catholic Separate School Division
No. 81
Regina School Division No. 4
Saskatchewan Rivers School Division No. 119
Saskatoon School Division No. 13
South East Cornerstone School Division No. 209
St. Paul's Roman Catholic Separate School Division
No. 20
Sun West School Division No. 207
Ministry of Advanced Education ^{2a}
Ministry of Education ^{2a}
Ministry of Immigration and Career Training ^{2a}
North Central Shared Facility (*partnership – 72.9 per cent
interest in asset and 69.7 per cent interest in operations
under shared control*) ^{1c}
Regional Colleges ^{1b}
Carlton Trail College
Great Plains College
North West College
Northlands College
Southeast College
Suncrest College
Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification
Commission ^{1b}
Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation ^{1c}
Saskatchewan Polytechnic ^{1b}
Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board ^{1c}
Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund
Training Completions Fund

Environment and Natural Resources

CIC Asset Management Inc. ^{2b}
Commercial Revolving Fund
Fish and Wildlife Development Fund
Forest Management Funds
Carrier Forest Management Trust
Crown Agricultural Land Forest Fund

Dunkley Forest Renewal Trust
Island Forests Management Fund
L&M Forest Renewal Trust Fund
Meadow Lake OSB Forest Management Trust Fund
Mee-Toos Forest Management Fund Trust
Mistik Forest Management Trust
North Central Trust Fund
Park Land Forests Management Fund
Sakaw Forest Renewable Trust Fund
Weyerhaeuser Forest Renewal Trust Fund
Impacted Sites Fund
Institutional Control Monitoring and Maintenance Fund
Institutional Control Unforeseen Events Fund
Ministry of Environment ^{2a}
Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport ^{2b}
Oil and Gas Orphan Fund
Operator Certification Board
Saskatchewan Research Council ^{2b}
Saskatchewan Technology Fund
Water Security Agency

General Government

Century Plaza Condominium Corporation
Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan
(separate)
Extended Health Care Plan for Certain Other
Employees ^{1d}
Extended Health Care Plan for Certain Other Retired
Employees ^{1d}
King's Printer Revolving Fund
Legislative Assembly and its Officers ^{2a}
Ministry of Finance ^{2a}
Ministry of Government Relations ^{2b}
Ministry of Highways ^{2b}
Ministry of Justice and Attorney General ^{2b}
Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement
Office of Executive Council
Public Employees Benefits Agency Revolving Fund
Public Employees Dental Fund ^{1d}
Public Employees Disability Income Fund ^{1d}
Public Employees Group Life Insurance Fund ^{1d}
Public Service Commission
School Division Tax Loss Compensation Fund

Health

eHealth Saskatchewan

Health Quality Council

Health Sector Affiliates

All Nations' Healing Hospital Inc.

Bethany Pioneer Village Inc.

Circle Drive Special Care Home Inc.

Cupar and District Nursing Home Inc.

Duck Lake and District Nursing Home Inc.

Foyer St. Joseph Nursing Home Inc.

Jubilee Residences Inc.

Lakeview Pioneer Lodge Inc.

Lumsden & District Heritage Home Inc.

Lutheran Sunset Home of Saskatoon

Mennonite Nursing Homes Incorporated

Mont St. Joseph Home Inc.

Oliver Lodge

Providence Place for Holistic Health Inc.

Radville Marian Health Centre Inc.

Raymore Community Health and Social Centre

Salvation Army - William Booth Special Care Home

Santa Maria Senior Citizens Home Inc.

Saskatoon Convalescent Home

Sherbrooke Community Society Inc.

Société Joseph Breton Inc.

Spruce Manor Special Care Home Incorporated

St. Ann's Senior Citizens Village Corporation

St. Anthony's Hospital

St. Joseph's Hospital (Grey Nuns) of Gravelbourg

St. Joseph's Hospital of Estevan

St. Joseph's Integrated Health Centre of Macklin Inc.

St. Paul Lutheran Home of Melville

St. Peter's Hospital, Melville

Strasbourg and District Health Centre Corp.

Sunnyside Adventist Care Centre

The Border-Line Housing Company (1975) Inc.

The Qu'Appelle Diocesan Housing Company

The Regina Lutheran Housing Corporation ^{3a}

Ukrainian Sisters of St. Joseph of Saskatoon

Warman Mennonite Special Care Home Inc.

Health Shared Services Saskatchewan

Ministry of Health

Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations Inc.

Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

Saskatchewan Health Authority

Saskatchewan Healthcare Recruitment Agency

Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre Board
of Governors

Protection of Persons and Property

Correctional Facilities Industries Revolving Fund

Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund

Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of
Saskatchewan

Firearms Secretariat

Integrated Justice Services ^{3b}

Law Reform Commission of Saskatchewan

Legislative Assembly and its Officers ^{2b}

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

Ministry of Government Relations ^{2b}

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General ^{2a}

Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety

Saskatchewan Provincial Safety Agency

Victims' Fund

Social Services and Assistance

Ministry of Government Relations ^{2b}

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport ^{2b}

Ministry of Social Services

Saskatchewan Housing Corporation ^{1d}

Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission

Transportation

Ministry of Government Relations ^{2b}

Ministry of Highways ^{2a}

Transportation Partnerships Fund

Government Business Enterprises (*modified equity*)

Insurance & Financing

Municipal Financing Corporation of Saskatchewan ^{1d}

Saskatchewan Auto Fund

Saskatchewan Government Insurance

Workers' Compensation Board (Saskatchewan) ^{1d}

Liquor & Gaming

Liquor and Gaming Authority

Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan

Utility

Saskatchewan Power Corporation

Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation

Saskatchewan Water Corporation

SaskEnergy Incorporated

¹ The year-ends of certain entities differ from March 31 2024: ^a April 30 2023; ^b June 30 2023; ^c August 31 2023; ^d December 31 2023.

² Activities are allocated across more than one theme: ^a primary activity; ^b secondary activity.

³ During 2024-25 the following changes were made to the Government reporting entity:

^a Entity's operations wound up into the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

^b Integrated Justice Services was wound up into the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety and the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General.