

From: [SARM Policy](#)
To: [RM 220 Administrator](#)
Subject: Weekly Policy Bulletin
Date: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 10:00:43 AM



8-2-2022

Reminders

How you and your Community Benefit from Census Data

For over a century and a half, Canadians have relied on census data to see how the country is changing, and focus on the issues that matter to them.

The most recent census completed in 2021 will provide a treasure trove of data about the Canadian population, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how our country has evolved in the past five years. These data can be used by businesses, non-profit organizations, governments and individuals to understand their communities and make informed decisions.

Are you wondering how you and your community can benefit from census data?

Here are some traditional and innovative ways:

- Business planning—census data may serve as the foundation for creating a viable business plan, analysing target markets, and pivoting businesses during the pandemic. It can be used to conduct an environmental analysis and help understand the local market.
- Choosing the community to live in—home listing services rely on census data to provide prospective home buyers with important demographic information about their communities and help them make the right choice that will accommodate their specific lifestyle.
- Academic research—thousands of academics, educators and students rely on census data to conduct research, data analysis and develop recommendations.
- Government program and service planning—thanks to census data, municipal, provincial and federal governments are able to offer support services and programs that are tailored to their residents, such as child care, schools, family services, housing, skills training for employment centres and retirement residences.
- Infrastructure—with census data, community organizations and local authorities can propose evidence-based planning and infrastructure projects that meet your neighbourhood's needs.
- Public transportation—the census collects information about commute times and public transit use, which can be used to create new bus/train/subway routes and active transportation trails, bike or pedestrian lanes, as well as recreational paths near you.

As of February 9, 2022, Statistics Canada will start releasing population and dwelling count census data. Subsequent releases throughout 2022 will focus on Canada's shifting demographic profile; families and households; military experience; income; linguistic diversity; First Nations people, Métis and Inuit; housing; citizenship and immigration; the ethnocultural and religious composition of the population; education; and the labour force.

Statistics Canada strives to make census data and analyses user-friendly and accessible to all Canadians. For more information about data release topics and timelines, please visit the **2021 Census dissemination planning** web page. They are also releasing a new Apple and Android mobile app—StatsCAN—that provides interesting perspectives and analysis based on census data.

Find more information on census data on the **Census of Population** web page of the Statistics Canada website.

[Learn More](#)

Active Transportation Fund - Call for Applications

On January 27, 2022, the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, **opened the call for applications** for the Active Transportation Fund, as well as other new funding opportunities in support of public transit systems.

Infrastructure Canada will be accepting applications for both the planning and capital funding streams of the Active Transportation Fund between **January 27, 2022 and March 31, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. EST.** Applications from eligible Indigenous recipients will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

The Active Transportation Fund's goal is to generate economic, environmental and social benefits for Canadians by increasing the amount, quality and usage of active transportation infrastructure.

If you are an eligible recipient with a project that will support a modal shift away from cars and towards active transportation, we invite you to submit your application through the **Applicant Portal**. To assist potential applicants in determining eligibility and preparing an application, guidance materials are available on **Infrastructure Canada's website**, including:

- **General information** on the Active Transportation Fund, which includes applicant and project eligibility requirements;
- Answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**;
- Instructions on **how to apply**, including:
- The **Applicant Guide**; and
- The **Step-by-Step Guides** for submitting an application.

Infrastructure Canada will be hosting weekly Webinars for interested potential applicants, beginning on February 2nd, 2022. At these webinar sessions, attendees will be provided with details on applicant and project eligibility, the application process, and the evaluation process. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. A list of available sessions and links to register are available on the **Webinars for Potential Applicants** page.

The Active Transportation Fund team welcomes you to contact them in regard to any questions you may have about the Active Transportation Fund or the application process by sending an email to **ATF-FTA@inf.gc.ca**. Please be advised that they will not be able to provide information on project eligibility until an application is received in full through our project intake process.

[Learn More](#)



ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge

The Community Better Challenge is a month-long physical activity challenge that brings communities together with physical activity and sports participation. Now more than ever, community members are looking for an opportunity to reconnect with each other and re-engage with their community.

The annual challenge is open to all communities and individuals, ultimately recognizing ***Canada's Most Active Community*** and awarding the local municipality \$100,000 to support local physical activity initiatives. Secondary prizes for the Most Active Community in each province and territory will also be awarded up to \$15,000.

To support you, ParticipACTION has created a micro-grant program. Municipalities, community organizations, schools, sports clubs, and workplaces can **apply between January 17 and February 21** to receive up to \$1,500 to support activities that get your community active.

In addition to the regular grant funds available, we are thrilled to announce that Sport Canada has provided an additional \$60,000 to support **multi-sport projects that exclusively engage women and girls** through the Gender Equity Fund.

[Learn More / Apply](#)

Feedback

SARM's Weekly Webinars - Topic Survey

Our Webinars

SARM offers webinars for members on a wide range of helpful topics. Not only can you participate in these live, but you can also have them as a resource to view again when it's convenient. Past topics have included:

- Fire Bans and Emergency Preparedness
- Municipal Safety Manual
- Civic Addressing
- Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities
- Tendering and Procurement Best Practices
- Mental Wellness in Agriculture – Fostering Resiliency
- Nuclear Power in Saskatchewan
- Principles for Positive Employment Relations
- And more

Future Topics

Let us know what you would like to hear about in 2022!

Please complete our short survey to provide your input on a variety of potential webinar topics.

[Visit our Webinars Library](#)

[Take the Survey](#)

National Park Urban Dialogue

Insightrix Research, based in Saskatoon, is hosting an online community on behalf

of the Meewasin Valley Authority to gather feedback, viewpoints and insights around the potential for a National Urban Park in Saskatoon.

You have been invited to join the online community to contribute to discussions on this topic. By joining, participants have the ability to inform the design of a potential Urban Park framework that would best represent local and regional interests. Participants will be asked for thoughts and opinions about the vision, mission and guiding principles for an Urban Park the Saskatoon region, potential boundaries and governance structure for this model. The conversation will be moderated over a four-week period by Insightrix and will help inform the next phase of consultation and development.

This Dialogue is not anonymous, and participant identities will be visible to others in the community. After the completion of these discussions, Insightrix will produce a report to Meewasin that will summarize themes, findings and recommendations from each dialogue. Individual comments and ideas will remain anonymous.

How does it work?

- Participants are invited to register for the online community by creating a unique, password-protected login followed by answering a few questions to help us get to know our participants.
- You will be asked to review background information about the potential National Urban Park in preparation for the online discussions.
- Questions will be posed through short surveys and moderated online discussions. Participants are invited to respond and interact with one another as we explore various topics.
 - The platform adapts to the device used.
 - Participants can login to the online community whenever / wherever is convenient for them. We ask that you respond to new discussion questions or surveys within 24 hours to ensure we stay on track.
 - Participants can reflect and go back or add to their responses.
 - Participants can answer with text, video, pictures or weblinks.
- Participants will receive notification emails when new discussion questions or activities are available.

Join the National Urban Park Dialogue Now!

Please click the link below to join. Once you click on the link, you will be directed to a page to create your password. After that, the first step will be to fill out a short survey to tell us about yourself

Welcome to the National Urban Park online community!

[Join the Dialogue](#)

The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999 Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999* and associated policies and procedures. The Ministry of Health is interested in any ideas you may have for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- ***The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999***
- ***Swimming Pool Design and Operation Standards***
- ***Whirlpool Design and Operational Standards***

See below message from the Ministry of Health:

Dear Stakeholder:

The reduction of red tape and regulatory burden is a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. Red tape impacts all residents and businesses and reduces the efficiency of government. Inconsistent, unclear, out-of-date and duplicative regulations create hardship for Saskatchewan people and business and act as barriers to economic growth.

As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Swimming Pool Regulations, 1999*.

The **survey period is open between February 2nd and 15th** and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: <https://survey.alchemer.ca.com/s3/50140327/Swimming-Pool-Regulations>

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Stevens at Shawna.Stevens@health.gov.sk.ca.

Take the Survey

The Health Hazard Regulations Survey

The Ministry of Health is currently reviewing *The Health Hazard Regulations* and associated policies and procedures. We are interested in any ideas you may have

for reducing red tape and regulatory barriers in your business and industry as a whole.

Links to regulatory documents currently under review can be found here:

- ***The Health Hazard Regulations***
- ***Saskatchewan Personal Service Facility Best Management Practices***

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As part of the Government's regulatory review process, we wish to invite you to participate in an initial survey to identify red tape associated with *The Health Hazard Regulations*.

The **survey period is open between February 2nd and 15th** and can be found at the Public Consultation page here: <https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50140324/Health-Hazard-Regulations>

This correspondence has been distributed to stakeholders identified on the attached stakeholder distribution list. If you know of other stakeholders who may be interested in providing input on these regulations to identify red tape, please pass the material on.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Wayne Johnson at Wayne.Johnson@health.gov.sk.ca.

Take the Survey

Royal Saskatchewan Museum Teams Up with University of Regina on Owl Research

The Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) and the  University of Regina have begun work on a research project involving great horned owls that includes a unique citizen science component.

If you see a great horned owl, they want to know.

"Great horned owls are one of the most common owls in Saskatchewan," Royal Saskatchewan Museum Curator of Vertebrate Zoology Dr. Ryan Fisher said. "Populations of great horned owls in southern Saskatchewan have been increasing in recent years and we are interested in how human modifications to the landscape have allowed this bird to be so successful."

The University of Regina has developed a **form** that Saskatchewan residents can use to report their great horned owl sightings.

In southern Saskatchewan, great horned owls have shown remarkable adaptability and now occupy and nest in trees that were planted around farmyards, abandoned buildings and other human-made structures.

In addition, these owls also rely on elevated perches such as power poles, fence lines and planted trees to hunt from.

"This adaptability is what makes these birds really unique, as this is one of only a handful of species that seem to do well in human-modified areas," Dr. Fisher said. "Part of the project revolves around public participation and collaboration in the research, or citizen science - by having people share and contribute to data monitoring and collection."

Dr. Fisher said they are interested in sightings outside of cities and south of the tree line in the agricultural zone (grassland and aspen parkland).

"This is just some of the innovative research taking place behind the scenes at the RSM," Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Laura Ross said. "The RSM is truly a centre for excellence when it comes to research, in addition to the incredible exhibits and education programming, there is always something new to discover!"

With great horned owls starting to nest soon (late February and into March), the next couple months will be a key time to get data from people. Owls are extremely sensitive to disturbance, so please take great care when looking for them and try to keep as much distance as possible between you and the owl.

There are some excellent guidelines **online** to reduce your impact on birds.
The project will run until 2023.

To learn more about the Royal Saskatchewan Museum's programming and world class research, visit <https://royalsaskmuseum.ca/>, Facebook

(@royalsaskmuseum), Twitter (@royalsaskmuseum), Instagram (@royalsaskmuseum), and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/royalsaskmuseum>.

Visit. Donate. Discover.

Note: Visitors 12 and older must be fully vaccinated or have a negative Covid-19 test to visit the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Visit the Government of Saskatchewan website for further information about how to obtain proof of vaccination and the latest COVID-19 information.

For more information, contact:

Jamie Gibson
Parks, Culture and Sport
Regina
Phone: 306-527-8152
Email: jamie.gibson2@gov.sk.ca

[Learn More](#)

[Submit Form](#)

Information

Irrigation Program Application Deadline Extensions

The Ministry of Agriculture values its relationship with stakeholders and the feedback they receive from industry.

The Ministry of Agriculture would like to update you on changes to the Irrigation Program deadlines that have been implemented to address concerns from industry that the application deadline was too early, and irrigators are experiencing delays in completing projects within the current program timelines due to a variety of factors. To bridge the gap between the end of the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and the Next Policy Framework, the deadline for irrigation projects has been extended.

- **The deadline for Irrigation Development pre-approval applications has been extended from Jan. 15, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.**
- **The deadline for Irrigation Environmental Efficiency pre-approval applications has been extended from Aug. 1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.**

Applicants will have up to 18 months from written project approval to submit a claim under either program. The ministry is engaging with the industry to develop options for the projects where construction will carry over past March 31, 2023.

Information about the existing Irrigation Program can be found at Saskatchewan.ca/CAP. Applicants should be encouraged to apply early and submit their claims as soon as their projects are completed.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Dianna Emperingham, Executive Director of Crops and Irrigation or Mark Anderson, Executive Director of Programs.

Contact information:

Mark Anderson

Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Programs Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 329 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1

Mark.anderson@gov.sk.ca

Dianna Emperingham

Government of Saskatchewan
Executive Director
Crops and Irrigation Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Rm 101 – 3085 Albert Street
Regina SK S4S 0B1

dianna.emperingham@gov.sk.ca

[Learn More](#)

Resources

Ministry of Agriculture 2022 Winter Lease Auction

The Ministry of Agriculture announced that it has Crown lands that are available for lease through public auction hosted by McDougall Auctioneers Ltd..

The auction opened on February 1st, 2022 and has staggered close dates of February 15th and 17th, 2022.

To view the Winter Lease Auction Catalogue click [here](#):

[View Auction Catalogue](#)

If you wish to access the auction at McDougall Auctioneers Ltd., visit:

[Visit Auction Website](#)

FREE Webinar by Blueprint: Designing Effective Surveys

Designing effective surveys | February 18, 2022 9:00 – 10:30 CST | Accelerator Communications Essentials Series

Virtual and fully immersive, this 90-minute workshop will fast-track your learning while taking up minimal time during your busy February days!

Workshop description:

When you're proposing or planning projects that impact your residents' daily lives, you have to have the evidence to back up your decisions, every step of the way. Surveying citizens to engage them and get their buy-in can make or break your next project. Join Blueprint Inc. and Probe Research to learn how to put the pieces together.

About the presenters:

The Accelerator Program workshops are hosted by Michelle Kuly, CEO of Blueprint, with guest experts and specialists who together offer participants decades of experience and insight in municipal communications and public engagement.

To sign up for the workshop for FREE, simply email training@blueprintinc.ca

About the Accelerator series:

This is part of the *Accelerator Essentials Program*, a 6-workshop series on communications essentials for municipal administrators. The program is designed specifically for municipal administrators and communicators. Workshops are offered from February to April.

The series ran for the first time in 2021 in partnership with the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association with an overwhelmingly positive response. In 2022 we're excited to be making the program available to Saskatchewan municipalities. Communications topics covered by workshops in the series include:

- Surveys
- Social media
- Communications plans
- Controversial projects
- Writing for citizen understanding
- Planning virtual and in-person citizen events

Visit the links below to learn more about upcoming workshops and discounts:

[Learn More](#)[View Full Workshop Listing](#)

Heritage Conservation Branch Offering Free Virtual Webinars

Starting March 1, 2022 the Heritage Conservation Branch within the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport is offering free virtual webinars to the public. Each webinar will be presented from 12:00pm to 1:00 pm CST.

Upcoming Webinars:

- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 – Heritage Tourism
- Thursday, March 3, 2022 – Historic Buildings as Business Assets
- Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – Heritage and Community
- Thursday, March 10, 2022 – Archaeological Heritage Projects

Registration is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is available for single or multiple webinars.

To register, please visit the [Webinar Series Registration site](#). Registrations will be accepted until Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

Please note that the webinars are accredited for professional development credits from the Saskatchewan Economic Development Alliance and the Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute.

If you have any questions, please contact the Heritage Conservation Branch at 306-787-2817 or historic.places@gov.sk.ca.

[Learn More](#)[Register Now](#)

Community Airport Partnership Program - Call for Applications

The Government of Saskatchewan is now accepting applications for the Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program. CAP is administered through the Ministry of Highways. Under the program, communities can apply for up to \$275,000 in grants for rehabilitation and improvements.

"Our community airports are important to our provincial economy," Highways Minister Fred Bradshaw said. "The program provides grants to municipal

governments to improve community airports by helping offset costs associated with rehabilitation and upgrades."

Community airports secure the safety of our communities through supporting services like Air Ambulance and firefighting.

Projects are approved based on criteria focused on improving safety, extending life cycle of the asset, airport utilization, economic benefits associated with the project and partnership opportunities.

The Government of Saskatchewan contributed a record \$1.5 million to improvements at 17 community airports in the 2021-22 Budget. The additional funds came from government's two-year \$7.5 billion stimulus program.

Applications are now open for Community Airport Partnership grants available in 2022-23. Interested communities can apply at www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/transportation/airports/community-airport-partnership-cap-program. The **deadline for applications is 5 pm on March 13, 2022.**

Since 2007-08, the ministry has committed to investing more than \$10.5 million with a total of 42 different communities and RMIs having benefited from the CAP program.

For more information, contact:

Steve Shaheen
Highways
Saskatoon
Phone: 306-260-9159
Email: steve.shaheen@gov.sk.ca

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