Seizing AgTech Opportunities In Saskatchewan

Strong, Diverse Resource Sectors

- Saskatchewan has a wealth of resources that is the envy of nations. Agricultural crops, potash, uranium, oil and gas – not to mention critical element assets like helium, lithium and rare earth elements – are found in abundance.
- Saskatchewan is Canada's second-largest exporter of agrifood products with sales reaching $18.5 billion in 2024. Saskatchewan has a broad array of sustainably produced crops, at a scale of production that is attractive for ingredient processors.
- Along with world-class resources, Saskatchewan has a globally connected advanced research cluster to support further development.
- In 2024, Saskatchewan's real GDP totalled $80.5 billion. That's a lot for 1.2 million people and it speaks to workforce productivity.
- Saskatchewan is home to one of the most attractive investment environments in the world. From 2013 to 2024, Saskatchewan achieved about $190.6 billion in new investments. Saskatchewan's total capital investment increased by 9.5 per cent from $18.2 billion in 2013 to $19.9 billion in 2024. The value of international merchandise exports reached over $45.4 billion in 2024, the third-highest export year for Saskatchewan.
- In the past 10 years (2014-2024), manufacturing sales increased 39 per cent.
- Companies with applications and technologies involving AI, drones, sensing technologies, and integrated digital solutions will find fertile ground for development and markets including agriculture, mining, energy and even aerospace and defence industries.

Incentive Programs

- *Saskatchewan Advantage Innovation Fund (SAIF)* provides non-repayable grants to projects that address a specific industry challenge in the province's core sectors: energy, mining, manufacturing, education, and healthcare.
- *Saskatchewan Agtech Growth Fund (AGF)* is a research and development (R&D) funding program designed to accelerate the commercialization of game-changing technological innovations in the province's agricultural sector.
- *AgWest Bio Technology Research and Commercialization Fund* provides repayable investment capital for early-stage companies.
- *Global Agrifood Advancement Partnership (GAAP)* is a collaboration between Ag-West Bio, the Global Institute of Food Security, the Agri-Food Innovation Centre, Innovation Place, and private sector partners. GAAP was created to support early and rapid-growth stage companies within all areas of agriculture and food. GAAP combines the benefits of significant investment capital (up to $500,000), long-term incubation in a world-class facility (up to three years, with access to laboratories, greenhouses, and offices), along with guidance and training from sector-specific experts.
- *Saskatchewan Value-Added Agriculture Incentive (SVAI)* is a 15 per cent tax rebate on corporate taxes payable, based on eligible capital investments of $10 million or more, for expanding production capacity in value-added agriculture processing properties.

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- *Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive (SCII)* offers eligible corporations a reduction of the provincial corporate income tax rate to 6 per cent for a period of 10 years on taxable income earned from the commercialization of qualifying types of intellectual property.
- *Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Tax Credit* is a three-year tax credit pilot program for individuals and corporations investing in eligible Saskatchewan-based businesses in the food and beverage manufacturing or machinery and transportation equipment sectors.

Competitive Environment

- Provincial tax exemptions for eligible machinery, equipment and materials used during the manufacturing process.
- Trade agreements and the preferred trade status of Canadian suppliers give Saskatchewan agtech companies and processors an edge in the market. Canada is one of the few countries deemed to have equivalent domestic inspection for USA food processors.

No	Payroll tax
No	Health premiums
10%	Manufacturing corporate tax rate *(as low as 10 per cent depending on type of operation)*
12%	General corporate tax rate
10%	Tax credit for R&D expenditures
6%	Refundable investment tax credit on manufacturing and processing equipment
6%	Provincial sales tax; lowest of all provinces with a sales tax
1%	Small business tax rate for Canadian controlled private corporations

Logistics and Transportation

- Saskatchewan's central location provides easy access to markets across North America and to ports for overseas markets.

Labour Force

- From 2014 to 2024, Saskatchewan's employment increased by 5.9 per cent, adding 33,700 more jobs to the economy.
- More than 219,000 people immigrated to Saskatchewan from 2009 to 2024.

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