

Wildfire and Emergency Management

Response to Independent Review of 2025 Wildfire Season | June 2026

Recommendations

1 Review the SPSA's structure to ensure organizational alignment with mandates as the Provincial Emergency Coordinator, wildfire management, and emergency dispatch.

2 Strengthen internal emergency management coordination and structure within SPSA and the Government of Saskatchewan.

3 Improve integration and coordination between the SPSA and other Government of Saskatchewan ministries, agencies, crown corporations and communities.

4 Strengthen fire behaviour modelling and risk mapping.

5 Strengthen the Fuel Management Program through site-specific prescriptions, post-treatment monitoring and collaboration with external partners.

6 Advance workforce planning and training schedules to before the wildfire season.

7 Proactively initiate procurement and contracting processes before the wildfire season starts.

8 Improve equipment management and equipment recovery.

9 Develop a provincial recovery strategy including a disaster social recovery framework.

10 Advance a culture of continuous improvement by prioritizing after-action reviews.

11 Foster positive organizational culture and improve the availability of psychological health supports.

Immediate Actions

Immediately undertake a jurisdictional scan and organizational structure review to adopt best-in-class emergency management wildfire response models in Saskatchewan.

Enhance clear and timely communication including the enactment of daily PEOC* calls immediately once an emergency happens. Secondary calls will also be enacted with impacted communities and organizations supporting evacuees.

Ensure that affected Government of Saskatchewan ministries, agencies, Crown corporations and communities have a designated representative at the PEOC.*

Direct the SPSA to accelerate evaluation and implementation of advanced fire modelling and detection technologies to enhance situational awareness and response effectiveness.

Establish a FireSmart Grant Program, providing up to \$40,000 for communities to obtain a FireSmart designation.

Establish "community wildfire reservists" by partnering with local communities to train and deploy a new tier of firefighters looking to help protect their communities in emergency situations.

Introduce a simplified five-year procurement process for local vendors willing to protect their communities in wildfire response. Direct the SPSA to complete annual confirmation of engagement in advance of the wildfire season.

Enhance inventory management information system through improved training, accountability and oversight.

Implement permanent recovery task teams for emergency management in partnership with local communities.

Undertake post-incident reviews that involve impacted communities with clear accountability and oversight.

Direct the SPSA to develop an action plan that ensures consistent and clear communication of mental health supports available across the organization.

*PEOC refers to Provincial Emergency Operations Centre.

saskatchewan.ca/fire

Saskatchewan! 