

Community Preparedness



From Disaster to Renewal: Provincial Support for Community Recovery



Natural disasters can disrupt daily life with little warning. Flooding, wildfire, tornadoes, plow winds and other severe weather events can damage homes, local businesses and vital community services. The [Provincial Disaster Assistance Program \(PDAP\)](#), administered by the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency, provides support to help communities begin recovering when these events occur. PDAP fills important gaps by covering losses that are not usually handled by private insurance, including cleanup, essential repairs and temporary relocation for residents who must leave their homes.

Before residents can apply for PDAP, a local authority such as a town, city or rural municipality must pass a resolution requesting designation as an Eligible Assistance Area. Once the request is approved, PDAP guides the community through the next steps so residents, small businesses, agricultural operations, First Nations and municipalities can submit claims. PDAP assistance focuses on restoring essential property to its pre-disaster condition, rather than providing full replacement or covering items that private insurance should address. Clear guidelines outline eligible expenses, reimbursement limits and how designations are determined, helping communities understand what support is available.

PDAP has played a critical role during major disaster years in Saskatchewan. Historically, during high-impact years between 2010 and 2014, more than \$351 million was distributed in response to approximately 21,700 flood-related claims across the province, with 2011 alone accounting for over \$150 million in assistance – one of the costliest disaster years on record. Since that time, the program has continued to support dozens of designated events across the province including flooding, wildfires, severe rain, windstorms, tornadoes and plow winds. Collectively, these experiences illustrate the considerable costs disasters impose on Saskatchewan communities and reinforce the importance of practical, timely support during recovery.

Did you know?

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency co-ordinates multi-ministry recovery efforts such as the Recovery Task Team to support communities after disasters, bringing together cleanup, temporary housing, social wellness and long-term recovery efforts. These integrated supports ensure residents and local governments are not left to navigate recovery alone. Large-scale events like the 2025 wildfires reinforced how crucial this co-ordinated provincial approach is, helping people regain stability through debris cleanup, temporary housing and social wellness services on the long path back to stability.

Why It Matters

By covering temporary relocation and essential repairs for primary residences, the program helps vulnerable individuals and families regain stability and remain connected to their communities. PDAP also assists municipalities in repairing essential public assets such as roads, sewers and water infrastructure, helping communities maintain critical services during difficult periods. This support enables small businesses and agricultural operations to return to work more quickly, reduces pressure on local governments and helps residents stay rooted in the places that matter to them. These integrated approaches ensure that recovery addresses not only physical damage but also the emotional, social and economic impacts that disasters leave behind.

The PDAP program further encourages future risk-reduction by allowing up to 15 per cent of eligible damage costs to be used for mitigation projects that lower the likelihood of repeat damage. Together, these supports help communities recover more confidently and strengthen the long-term resilience of Saskatchewan's people.

Link to Related Information

[PDAP General Claim Guidelines](#)

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