

Annual Report

2025-26

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

Letters of Transmittal



The Honourable Alana Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture
and Sport; Minister
Responsible for the Status
of Women

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Ministry of Parks,
Culture and Sport for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

Alana Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women



Greg Gettle
Deputy Minister of Parks,
Culture and Sport

The Honourable Alana Ross
Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of
Parks, Culture and Sport for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

Greg Gettle
Deputy Minister of Parks, Culture and Sport

Organization Overview

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport – Overview

Mandate

The ministry's strategic focus is on quality of life and economic growth. The ministry works with diverse groups and communities to enhance the province's cultural, artistic, recreational, and social life; to promote excellence in the arts, culture, heritage, and sport; and to represent the interests of the province's French-language population. The ministry manages and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum; conserves ecosystems and cultural resources; and provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park and museum visitors.

The ministry is also home to the Status of Women Office.

Mission

Inspire all citizens and visitors to connect with nature, culture, and recreation.

Progress on Goal 1: Offer Valued Experiences for All Citizens and Visitors

Ongoing enhancements to programs, services, and infrastructure, as well as the conservation of cultural, heritage and natural resources at our provincial parks, and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum are necessary to build compelling and meaningful experiences that inspire new and repeat visitation and participation. Additionally, through support to partner organizations offering programs, the ministry helps to increase access and reduce barriers to sport, culture, heritage, and recreation across the province. These programs and enhancements contribute to building stronger families and vibrant communities by providing spaces for people to experience nature, socially connect, relax, and revitalize; all of which have a profound effect on the physical and emotional well-being of citizens.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Improve and maintain infrastructure.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Enhanced investment to support expansion, maintenance, accessibility, and renewal of infrastructure to meet growing demands for camping, recreational, and cultural opportunities.
 - 2025-2026 capital budget was fully expended by the end of the fiscal year to support the expansion, maintenance, accessibility, and renewal of park infrastructure.
 - In 2025-2026, the ministry delivered 45 projects in 26 locations across the province, including:
 - New service centre at Candle Lake Provincial Park;
 - New mini-service centre at Duck Mountain Provincial Park;
 - Replacement of the existing service centre at Greenwater Lake Provincial Park;
 - Exterior and structural restoration of the Humphrys Hewlett House;
 - Playground replacements at Danielson and Greenwater Lake Provincial Parks; and,
 - Road improvements at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park in collaboration with the Ministry of Highways.
 - The 2025-2026 preventative maintenance budget was fully utilized to support key maintenance and infrastructure priorities, including upgrades to park facilities and campsites, purchasing maintenance equipment, replacing signage, maintaining water and wastewater systems, and completing related design and assessment work. Programs funded under the Preventative Maintenance program include:
 - Facility upgrades and campsite enhancements;
 - Minor maintenance equipment;
 - Park signage;
 - Water and wastewater system maintenance; and,
 - Design and assessment.

- The Research, Exhibit and Collections project has completed the procurement process and started construction.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Enhance programs and opportunities.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Attract visitors to provincial parks and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (including the T.Rex Discovery Centre) through new and targeted initiatives, such as recreational, cultural, and heritage programs, services, and events.
 - Saskatchewan provincial parks delivered new initiatives that connected students and visitors with nature, recreational and learning opportunities, including:
 - Sixteen programs were introduced this year including Coffee Corner, Campground Games, Cloud Explorers, Story Circle, back country hikes at Greenwater Lake and Duck Mountain provincial parks, A Tree Falls in the Forest amphitheatre play at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, and more. Twenty-four visitor-favourite programs were also updated and refreshed. Public Programming engaged 30,232 visitors and saw growth over 2024.
 - Thirty-five events were held to engage and delight visitors and events overall engaged over 11,700 visitors, increasing by 20 per cent over 2024. New events included:
 - Hike the Heights at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park: a guided hiking event to the Conglomerate Cliffs (sold out event with 45 visitors).
 - Prairie Day at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park: celebration of Indigenous culture, featuring Indigenous artist Teagan Littlechief with bison activities and crafts (170 visitors attended despite inclement weather).
 - Festival in the Forest at Meadow Lake Provincial Park: art workshops, artist market, crafts, and a concert (425 visitors).
 - Into the Pines at Candle Lake Provincial Park: a guided hiking event on Old Baldy Trail through the changing scenery of wetlands and forest.
 - New Discovery Pack themes for 2025 included Junior Ecologist Aquatic Adventures, Soil Scientist, Paleontology Pals, Marvelous Mammals and reached 9,400 visitors, up 27 per cent over last year.
 - More than 16,300 students took part in curriculum linked educational programming – program participation grew by 37 per cent from the previous year and teacher and student satisfaction at 97 per cent and 100 per cent, respectively.
 - To support demand, new teacher self-use programming kits were introduced, allowing more students to come to the park and take part in programming led by their teacher but with all the information and supplies provided by Sask Parks. The self-use kits engaged almost 5,000 additional students.
 - A pilot winter Outdoor Classroom season was delivered at Pike Lake Provincial Park. Winter Outdoor Classroom attracted 429 students who

took part in two snowshoe programs offered, which were developed to meet curriculum outcomes.

- The Royal Saskatchewan Museum and the T.Rex Discovery Centre delivered a diverse and engaging mix of public programming, school offerings, and special events designed to appeal to a broad range of audiences year-round. Expanded public programming included monthly Drop-In Learning Lab activities, Scotty-themed events such as the Dino Egg Hunt and Unearthed Day, Science on a Sphere presentations, and early childhood offerings like Storytime and Silly Stories. They also strengthened partnerships and outreach such as the University of Regina “Night at the Museum” program for new students.
 - This year, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum focused on increasing middle years and student engagement, and attendance increased in that demographic. A new online booking system launched in September, and this improved access and efficiency for educators.
 - Seasonal and themed events helped drive visitation throughout the year. Programming highlights included the Halloween BOO-gie for preschoolers, the highly successful Dinovember series, and the “Bones and Bells” holiday celebration. School break programming also attracted strong attendance.
 - Interactive and culturally relevant programming remained a priority. Indigenous-led initiatives, including storytelling sessions with Elder Hazel and the Traditional Knowledge Keeper program, enriched visitor experiences. A Métis Hooked Rug project was started, led by Elder Margaret Harrion.
 - This interactive program became a popular, hands-on exhibit element for visitors.
- Promoting participation in sport, culture, recreation, and community activities to increase well-being.
 - The Saskatchewan Veterans Service Club Support Program was fully subscribed, with 67 grants provided to eligible recipients across the province.
 - The Community Rink Affordability Grant supported 594 indoor ice surfaces (395 skating rinks and 199 curling rinks) across the province. The program grant doubled to \$5,000 per ice surface this fiscal year.
 - With \$3.75 million in annual funding, the School Playground Equipment Grant helped 94 school playground projects across the province in its inaugural year.
- The Royal Saskatchewan Museum will add a new micro-exhibit to the Life Sciences gallery, an interactive sensory center to engage preschool visitors, and a new exhibit at the T. Rex Discovery Centre.
 - The Royal Saskatchewan Museum continued to enhance visitor experiences through the development and renewal of engaging, high-quality exhibits. In the Life Sciences Gallery, new additions such as the *Eco Regions* and *Animal Sounds* exhibits enriched opportunities for immersive, hands-on learning, while the completion of the Traders exhibit renewal strengthened the storytelling and visitor experience within the Indigenous Gallery. In the *Home: Life in the Anthropocene* gallery, a new *Birds in Danger* interactive station was introduced, encouraging visitors to explore conservation themes in an accessible and engaging way.
 - To further support family and early childhood engagement, an interactive “field station” was enhanced, allowing young visitors to build their own dinosaur fossils through hands-on play. The museum also hosted travelling exhibits on

residential schools and ticks, providing timely and relevant educational content that deepened public understanding of important social and environmental issues.

- Enhancements at the T.Rex Discovery Centre, continue to build on the popularity of Scotty, the world's largest T.Rex. Two new Thescelosaurus skeleton mounts were added to the Scotty exhibit, creating a dynamic scene that brings prehistoric interactions to life. Additional developments include the *Race a Dino* exhibit, where visitors explore the speed of prehistoric animals in an interactive format, and the installation of a new accessible family photo opportunity area, where visitors capture and share their experiences. These new additions were installed during the off season, and the public will be able to view them starting in summer 2026.
- Continue to implement the Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement on French-language services to enhance delivery of services in French.
 - Through the agreements, \$224,000 in annual funding was provided to third parties to help improve the availability of French-language services, such as a French language mental health hotline, a patient accompaniment service to support better communications with health professionals, and professional development opportunities for Francophone artists.
 - At the end of the year, French-language services were available in 175 offices across government and there were 394 pages available in French on saskatchewan.ca. New social services content was developed in 2025-2026.
 - The French-language services centre received 531 requests in 2025-2026. Consistent with previous years, most of the requests were related to immigration and employment.
 - In 2025-2026, 585,000 words were translated by the Francophone Affairs Branch's translation service.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Work with sector partners to deliver safe and accessible experiences.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Support community investments through the Active Families Benefit, the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, the Community Initiatives Fund, and agency partners to continue to deliver access to quality sports, culture, heritage, recreation and physical activity programs and services.
 - Preliminary data states the Active Family Benefit had 4,801 potential claims in the 2024 taxation year, totalling \$1.10 million.
 - Approximately \$64.7 million was distributed through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, helping support over 12,000 sport, culture, and recreation beneficiary groups and 600,000 registered participants across the province.
 - The Community Initiatives Fund approved 658 grants for community-based projects and programs across Saskatchewan, totalling approximately \$11.14 million.
- Support the Meewasin Valley Authority and the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association through financial and in-kind support in providing safe, accessible, and valued experiences for citizens.
 - The ministry provided the Meewasin Valley Authority with \$513,000 in 2025-2026. This funding contributes to infrastructure upgrades and

maintenance; the development of environmental, cultural, and heritage educational programming; and active management measures that strengthen the Meewasin Valley's natural ecosystems.

- A total investment of \$2.23 million supported campground development, capital upgrades, and upkeep in regional parks, which are key camping, cottaging and recreation destinations serving both local communities and tourists. This included \$1 million to develop nearly 200 new seasonal campsites and \$1.23 million for capital improvements and preventive maintenance.
- Implement actions outlined for parks in the Government of Saskatchewan Accessibility Plan including reviewing the accessibility to identify barriers, and continuing to add accessibility features such as beach wheelchairs, accessible docks, campsites, and trails.
 - Accessibility reviews of Blackstrap and Fort Carlton provincial parks, focusing on facilities, trails, paths and parking lots, were completed.
 - The recommendations from the reviews will be considered as investments are made to maintain and renew park infrastructure over time.
 - A checklist to continuously review accessibility at key park facilities is complete. Parks will pilot the new checklist during the 2026 operating season before broader implementation into regular inspections.
 - In 2026, Parks will pilot a program to offer a 25 per cent discount on entry for those who display the accessibility placard available through Saskatchewan Abilities Council.

Performance Measure Results:

Royal Saskatchewan Museum and T.Rex Discovery Centre visitation

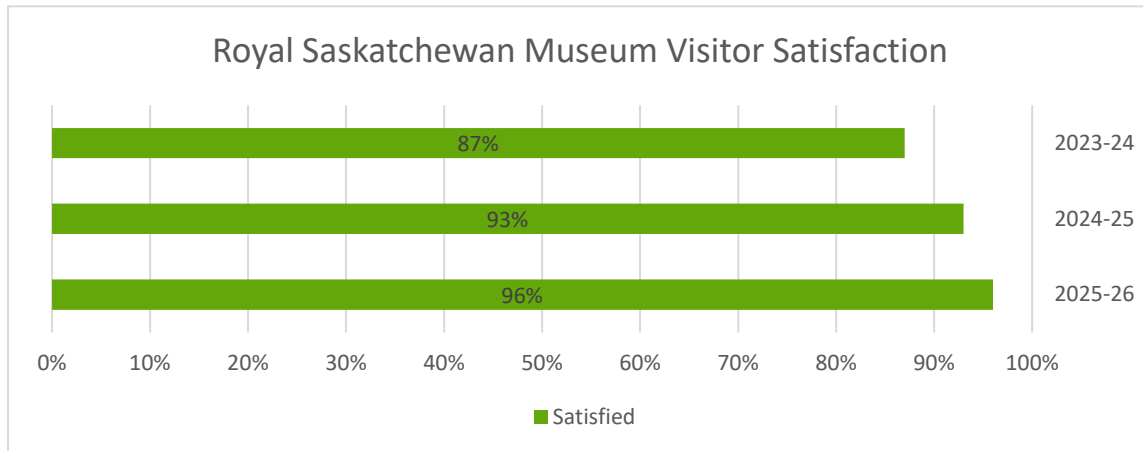
- Number of visitors to Royal Saskatchewan Museum and the T.Rex Discovery Centre.
- Target: Increase the number of visitors to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in 2025-2026 to 120,000.
 - Total Visitation was 121,391 people in 2025-2026 which was slightly higher than 117,647 people in 2024-2025.
- Target: Increase the number of visitors to the T.Rex Discovery Centre in 2025-2026 to 10,000.
 - Total visitation was 8,412 people in 2025-2026 which is consistent with 2024-2025 visitation with 8,478 people.

Participation in sports, culture, and recreation programs

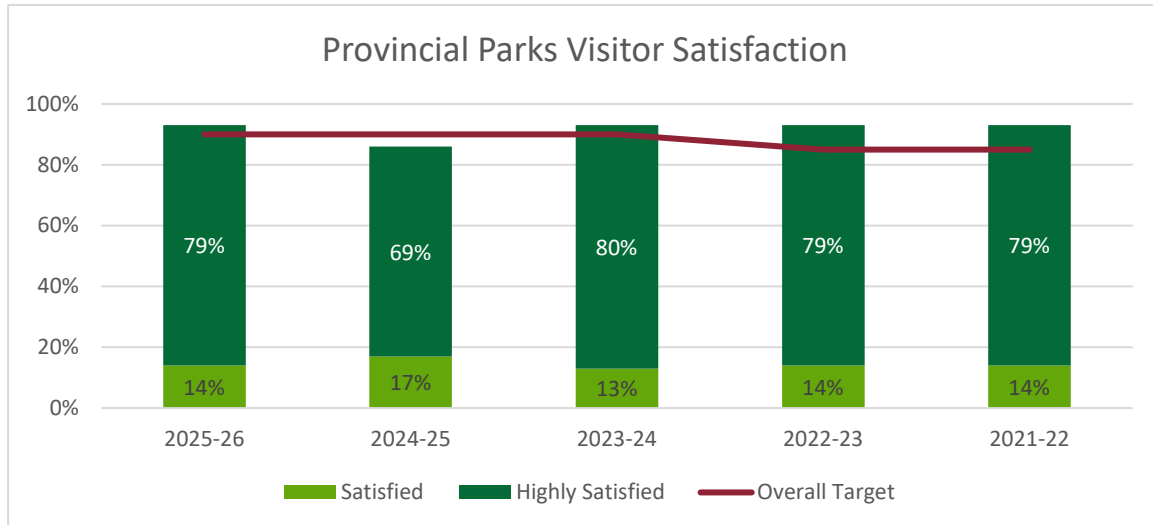
- Total participation in sport, culture and recreation programs delivered by ministry partners include Sask Lotteries, Community Initiatives Fund, Western Development Museum, Saskatchewan Science Centre, and Wanuskewin Heritage Park.
- Target: Increase participation in sport, culture, and recreation programs in 2025-2026 to 1.75 million participants.
 - There were 1.4 million registered participant instances in sport, culture, and recreation programs in 2025-2026, a reduction of approximately 200,000 compared to 2024-25.
 - Note: 1.4 million instances assume 100,000 participants from the Sask Science Centre. Also note, as with previous years, this measure incorporates data from stakeholders spanning several years.

Visitor satisfaction

- Increase satisfaction with visits to the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and Saskatchewan provincial parks.
- Target (Royal Saskatchewan Museum): 90 per cent satisfaction rate in 2025-2026.
 - Visitor satisfaction at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum remains high at 96 per cent satisfied (76.7 per cent very satisfied and 19.8 per cent satisfied).



- Target (Provincial Parks): 90 per cent satisfaction rate in 2025-2026.
 - 92 per cent of visitors were satisfied and 79 per cent were highly satisfied with their visit to provincial parks.



Youth engagement

- Maintain youth participation rates in interpretive and educational programming at historic parks, the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, and provincial parks.
- Target: 40 per cent of total visitation for both the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and the T.Rex Discovery Centre will be youth in 2025-2026.
 - At the Royal Saskatchewan Museum 43 per cent of visitors were youth.
 - At the T.Rex Discovery Centre 30 per cent of visitors were youth.

- Target: 50 per cent of participants in interpretative and educational programming at provincial parks are youth in 2025-2026.
 - Youth participation in guided interpretative and educational programming accounted for 72 per cent of total program participation in 2025-2026.

Online content and reach

- Number of pages on <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/bonjour>
- Target: 380 by March 31, 2026
 - Result: 394

Progress on Goal 2: Protect our Natural and Cultural Resources for the Benefit of all Current and Future Generations

The ministry invests in the protection of our natural, cultural and heritage resources to ensure Saskatchewan's ecosystems are conserved while our heritage resources and cultural artifacts are preserved and accessible for future generations. By prioritizing the conservation of park ecosystems, culture, and heritage, we support research, education, and awareness that deepens our understanding of the environment and its interconnectedness with human history. Balancing growth while protecting these invaluable resources helps to build stronger families and vibrant communities, fostering a sense of responsibility for both the natural world and cultural legacy. This improves the well-being of our citizens by creating understanding and connection to the past, responsibilities in the present, and considers the impact for future generations.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Strengthen stewardship of our cultural resources and natural ecosystems.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Continue to implement the Park Ecosystem Health Index to monitor and improve our understanding of the state and condition of the ecosystem integrity within provincial parks.
 - Five-year targets and associated action plans continued to be implemented and refined across four priority parks—Sask Landing, Douglas, Danielson, and Buffalo Pound provincial parks—to guide ecosystem management activities. Building on earlier work, 2025–2026 efforts focused on adaptive management approaches, incorporating monitoring results to adjust practices and improve ecological outcomes. Key actions included prescribed burning, targeted grazing management, invasive species control through herbicide application, and ongoing native grassland restoration initiatives.
 - In addition, biodiversity monitoring capacity was strengthened through the ongoing use of innovative tools, including acoustic recording devices, to support wildlife and avian surveys and improve detection of species at risk. These efforts enhanced data-driven decision-making and supported more comprehensive assessments of ecosystem condition and resilience across priority landscapes.
- Improve park ecosystems through active management measures such as tree planting, invasive species treatment, forest harvesting, and prescribed fire.
 - Advanced ecological planning and implementation progressed across multiple provincial parks, focusing on grassland and forest ecosystem health, species at risk, and wildfire resilience.
 - Grassland restoration advanced across several parks, with emphasis on four priority parks identified through the Park Ecosystem Health Index. Key actions included invasive species control and targeted grazing, supported by native seeding, and the completion of range health assessments for Douglas and Danielson provincial parks. Procurement was completed for range health

- reassessment at Meadow Lake Provincial Park in addition to prescribed fire across five sites.
- Planning for 2026 restoration includes seeding at Blackstrap, Saskatchewan Landing, and Danielson provincial parks, as well as shrub control across multiple parks and recreation sites. The 2025 invasive species program was reviewed, with treatments confirmed in nine parks and coordination underway for 11 additional sites. Species at Risk work advanced with a finalized mitigation plan for Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park (implementation in 2026), extensive surveys at Porcupine Hills Provincial Park and procurement of bird and bat surveys in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.
 - Forest and habitat initiatives included Aerial Jack Pine seeding in Narrow Hills Provincial Park (89 ha) to support woodland caribou and post-wildfire recovery planting (129 calliper trees and ~73,000 seedlings). Forest health actions addressed Dutch Elm disease in several parks and the Mountain Pine Beetle in Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. Fire risk reduction projects were completed in partnership with the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency across five parks. Strategic forest harvesting of approximately 400 ha across two parks to improve resilience and age-class balance. The Core Risk Tree Program continued to provide funding and oversight to ensure safe recreation areas and ecosystem health across provincial parks.
 - Environmental review and compliance work included development assessments, technical guidance, and permitting, with 249 work authorizations and 12 environmental assessments completed. Additional work included ongoing management of the former oil-and-gas site at Moose Mountain Provincial Park.
 - Improve public interaction with heritage information managed by the ministry through online services, including geographic names, archaeological and paleontological sites, and designated heritage properties.
 - A new service page and new and redesigned webpages were published to support the launch of the Heritage Resources Screening system. Sixteen new guides and templates are now accessible on these webpages. Obsolete webpages, guides, and templates were deleted.
 - The Heritage Resources Screening system is the online regulatory system for clients to screen and submit proposed development projects for heritage review and approval under *The Heritage Property Act*.
 - Launched in February 2026, initial results indicate significant reductions in heritage approval wait times for clients, improving public and client access to heritage regulatory services and enhancing the overall client experience through faster, more efficient service delivery and support.
 - The new Heritage Resources Screening system service page is located at <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/parks-culture-heritage-and-sport/heritage-conservation-and-commemoration/heritage-resources/heritage-resources-screening>

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Expand research and discovery.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Conduct and facilitate scientific research at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum and promote discoveries made by Royal Saskatchewan researchers.
 - Researchers published 13 peer-reviewed papers. More information about curator research can be found at [Research « Royal Saskatchewan Museum](#)
 - Researchers or collection managers offered 16 media interviews on different topics and projects.
 - The Royal Saskatchewan Museum continues to contribute to research all over the world; this year, the museum handled 159 public inquiries about its subject matter expertise.
 - Royal Saskatchewan Museum supervised 16 graduate students and 16 summer students and interns.
- Review the Royal Saskatchewan Museum Research, Exhibits, and Collection Facility for potential improvements to ensure the safety of staff and the longevity of collections and to facilitate ongoing world-class research about Saskatchewan's natural and cultural historical record.
 - Work on a new Research, Exhibits, and Collection facility began in winter 2026. This project involves repurposing an existing, underutilized government building into a modern, purpose-built environment that will support the museum's long-term mandate. The new facility will provide the necessary space, systems, and environmental controls to ensure the responsible preservation of Saskatchewan's collections, while also enhancing research capacity, supporting exhibit development, and providing a safe and efficient workplace for staff. The new facility is expected to be completed in spring 2028.
- Work in collaboration with Indigenous communities to continue providing culturally appropriate stewardship of sacred and culturally sensitive items held at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum.
 - The Royal Saskatchewan Museum advanced its commitment to the collaborative and culturally appropriate stewardship of the Indigenous Heritage collection by working closely with Indigenous communities, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers. Through shared collections care and ongoing engagement initiatives, the museum supported reconciliation, strengthened relationships, and meaningfully integrated Indigenous perspectives into its practices and planning.
 - Key activities included:
 - The museum started engagement for the New Indigenous Gallery redevelopment in collaboration with the ministry's Senior Indigenous Advisor to develop a community informed approach for the redevelopment of the Indigenous Gallery. This project is at the very beginning stages of planning.
 - The King George Medal was respectfully returned on loan to its owner for two visits to Standing Buffalo Dakota First Nation.
 - Hosted three Métis rug hooking workshops to inform gallery redevelopment.
 - Facilitated eight collections visits and tours for Indigenous individuals and communities.

- Loaned items to the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan for the Batoche Festival.
 - Coordinated numerous collections blessings, sweats, feasts, and ceremonies with guidance and participation from Indigenous Knowledge Keepers.
- Foster collaborative partnerships between governmental agencies, local communities, research institutions, and conservation organizations to advance ecological research and discovery within provincial parks.
 - This year, Landscape Protection Unit strengthened partnerships with multiple Government of Saskatchewan ministries, including the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, and the Water Security Agency, to support coordinated ecological management and research initiatives. Landscape Protection Unit expanded collaboration with the University of Saskatchewan through guest lectures to fourth year students and by supporting applied learning opportunities, including participation of senior undergraduate students in the Blackstrap grassland restoration research project. Landscape Protection Unit also partnered with the University of Saskatchewan to co-supervise a master's student conducting research on rare plant species within select provincial parks.
 - In addition, Landscape Protection Unit advanced a multi-partner prescribed fire program through collaboration with several government agencies, environmental non-governmental organizations, and academic partners. This work included delivering training and conducting prescribed burns with over 10 participating organizations, as well as working directly with two First Nations communities to provide capacity-building and training in prescribed fire management.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Work with Indigenous partners to deepen our knowledge of ecosystem and culture.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Expand engagement with Indigenous communities to increase the inclusiveness of the ministry's programs, services, and policies.
 - Saskatchewan Parks delivered several activities in the spirit of reconciliation, bringing cultural programming and opportunities to engage visitors with the land. Key initiatives include:
 - In partnership with Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Public Programming participated in the National Indigenous Peoples Day event on June 20, 2025, providing land acknowledgement programming to approximately 200 students at the museum.
 - Special event called Prairie Day was hosted at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park on June 21, 2025, aiming to celebrate Indigenous culture and history at the park with 170 visitors. Cultural programming was delivered throughout the day with partners such as Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Indigenous artists, Knowledge Keeper presentations, and joint programming with Landscape Protection Unit educating visitors about buffalo conservation at the park.
 - Partnered with Pêmisika Tourism on Trade Days event at Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park on July 12, 2025, seeing 358 participants.

- Drop-in reflection space for families supported by counselor Sophie Littlechief.
- Presentation of the *William* point-of-view video experience on the Science on the Sphere globe.
- Indigenous Storytelling Month (February):
 - Blanket Stories workshop through the Traditional Knowledge Keepers Program.
 - Storytelling and presentations by Elder Hazel.
 - Interactive storytelling activities during the February break.
- In collaboration with the Friends of the Royal Saskatchewan Museum the museum hosted the fifth SGI Solstice Series in March, featuring Lisa Laflamme and Creeson Agecutay; the event was sold out.

Performance Measure Results:

Park ecosystem health

- All 12 natural environment provincial parks are to be managed by ecosystem-based management plans by March 2028.
- Target: nine natural environment provincial parks are managed by ecosystem-based management plans by March 31, 2026.
- Target to develop two new park ecosystem health index action plans for parks by March 31, 2026.
 - As of March 31, 2026, ecosystem-based management plans have been developed or are in draft form for 9 of Saskatchewan's 12 natural environment provincial parks. These include plans that are finalized, awaiting approval, or undergoing revision to reflect changing ecological conditions. For example, the Narrow Hills Provincial Park plan is being updated following significant ecological changes resulting from recent wildfires.
 - With the exception on Narrow Hills Provincial Park, all of these plans are expected to be finalized by March 2027, representing substantial progress toward comprehensive ecosystem-based management across the provincial park system.
 - The ministry will also develop a long-term approach to initiate ecosystem-based management planning for the remaining three natural environment provincial parks that do not currently have plans in place.
- Target to develop two new park ecosystem health index action plans for parks by March 31, 2026.
 - The original target for 2025–2026 was to develop two new Park Ecosystem Health Index action plans by March 31, 2026. Over the course of the year, the ministry refined its approach to better support long-term program effectiveness. Efforts were redirected toward developing a plan for recalculating the Park Ecosystem Health Index framework to ensure that indicators, methodology, and data remain current and scientifically robust. This shift in focus strengthens the foundation of the Park Ecosystem Health Index program and will support more effective development and implementation of future action plans.
 - At the same time, significant progress was made in advancing ecosystem health priorities within the four existing Park Ecosystem Health Index priority parks. Targeted management actions, monitoring, and data collection were undertaken to address key ecological pressures and improve overall park condition.

Provincial heritage resources and collections with conservation plans

- All heritage resources and collections under the responsibility of the ministry will have an approved plan, strategy, or process to regulate, preserve, manage, or interpret each resource or collection.
- Target: Conservation plans will be included for all newly recorded archaeological sites following launch of the Online Client Services Initiative.
 - Following the launch of Heritage Resources Screening Tool (the online regulatory system developed by the Online Client Service Initiative team) on February 4, 2026, all Saskatchewan Archaeological Resource Record forms completed for newly recorded archaeological sites include a conservation plan.
- Target: Conservation plans are required for all newly designated Provincial Heritage Properties.
 - No Provincial Heritage Property designations occurred this fiscal.
- Target: All existing designated Provincial Heritage Properties will have a conservation plan by March 31, 2028.
 - Conservation plans were finalized for 36 Provincial Heritage Properties (out of 56 Provincial Heritage Properties) by the end of fiscal 2025-2026.

Progress on Goal 3: Increase Contribution to the Provincial Economy

Ongoing enhancements to programs, services and infrastructure are necessary to build compelling and meaningful experiences that inspire new and repeat visitation and participation. Leveraging partners and private sector interest in delivering new experiences supports economic growth and building strong and vibrant communities. These landscape/ecosystem, spaces, events, and experiences are vital contributors to tourism and the economy, bringing significant tourist spending to communities across the province.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Enhance programs and events that contribute to economic tourism expenditure.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Develop and deliver programs that educate and encourage support for the natural world, helping the Royal Saskatchewan Museum maintain its status as one of the top attractions in Regina.
 - The Royal Saskatchewan Museum continued to deliver engaging programs that educate the public about the natural world while reinforcing its role as one of Regina's leading attractions. Through interactive, family-friendly, and curriculum-aligned experiences, the museum fostered curiosity, environmental awareness, and a deeper understanding of Saskatchewan's natural heritage.
 - School programming was further enhanced to provide hands-on science-based learning aligned with Saskatchewan curricula, covering topics such as ecosystems, habitats, fossils, climate change, and biodiversity. Popular offerings included *Survivor: The Extinction*, which explores species at risk, and *Climate Change: It's About Time*.
 - Public programming focused on environmental stewardship and human impacts on the natural world. Initiatives such as the *Planet Protectors* Earth Day program encouraged conservation-minded behaviours from pre-schoolers, while *World in Progress* explored how urban and rural landscape changes affect wildlife. Additional programming, including nature journaling and mindful moments, encouraged participants to connect with and appreciate nature, while highlighting the positive impacts of time spent outdoors on mental well-being.
 - Enhancements to exhibits further supported these objectives. The new Saskatchewan Eco Regions exhibit provides an immersive introduction to the province's ecological diversity, allowing visitors to explore its landscapes and natural features in a single experience. Additions to the *Home* exhibit also highlight birds at risk and the impacts of climate change on species in Saskatchewan, strengthening awareness of current environmental challenges.
- Promote provincial parks as vital contributors to the economy, drawing millions of visitors from across Canada and beyond, including encouraging off-peak period visitation in provincial parks through in-park events, recreation opportunities, and new amenities.

- Multiple promotional campaigns used throughout the camping season were successful in boosting occupancy during targeted low-demand periods, showing an increase of 10.4 per cent of camping nights against a three-year average.
- Saskatchewan provincial parks offered free entry on July 19, 2025, to celebrate Saskatchewan Parks Week and Canada's Parks Day, with the aim to encourage the public to explore provincial parks. A total of 3,963 free entry permits were issued, representing a notable increase in overall visitation year-over-year.
- Saskatchewan provincial parks remain an attractive destination for tourists within the province and out of province, bringing people to Saskatchewan communities in and around provincial parks, supporting local coffee shops, restaurants, and small businesses. This has generated 77,000 camping reservations during the 2025 season of which 20.3 per cent of reservations were international tourists or from other parts of Canada.
- Saskatchewan Parks delivered a variety of guided interpretive and self-use programming to over 60,000 participants throughout the 2025 camping season. This includes:
 - Thirty-five special events throughout the season, seeing 11,794 total participants, an increase of 20 per cent over 2024.
 - Approximately 1,400 guided interpretive programs were delivered, seeing over 30,000 participants.
 - During the non-peak season, a National Trails Day celebration was delivered in the spring to kick off the programming season in June across provincial parks and included hiking events such as Back in the Boreal at Meadow Lake Provincial Park and Hike the Heights at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. Twelve other guided hikes in parks to celebrate were also offered.
 - Also, during the off-peak season, fall hiking events such as Fall Guided Hikes at Echo Valley Provincial Park and Into the Pines at Candle Lake Provincial Park were delivered in September 2025 to encourage visitors to hit the trails and enjoy the fall colours.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Enable partnership and investment to deliver new experiences and services.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Strategically invest in arts, culture, and heritage organizations across Saskatchewan.
 - Strategically invest over \$28 million in arts, culture, and heritage opportunities with sector partners including Creative Saskatchewan, SK Arts, Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation, Western Development Museum, Wanuskewin Heritage Park, and Science Centre.
 - The ministry invested \$10 million in Creative Saskatchewan to support production filming in various communities across Saskatchewan. A few highlighted productions include Guardians of the North S4, Flat Out Food S6 and Beyond the Veil.
 - The ministry also invested \$100,000 in business/arts to deliver the Artsvest Saskatchewan program, a sponsorship and training program designed to encourage private sector investment in arts, culture, and heritage organizations.)

- Increase private sector offerings available in provincial parks through active solicitation of new offerings to determine what individual parks require in terms of services and facilities and attraction efforts.
 - In 2025-2026, the ministry offered several new experiences in provincial parks in partnership with the private sector, including:
 - Tipi-style cabins at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park.
 - Tipis at Meadow Lake Provincial Park.
 - Glamping domes at Echo Valley and Blackstrap provincial parks.
 - Indigenous Cultural Programming at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.
 - Self-serve bagged ice in a campground at Moose Mountain Provincial Park.
 - Food services at the Buffalo Pound and Saskatchewan Landing provincial parks.
 - Photography workshops at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.
 - Yoga at Echo Valley Provincial Park.
 - Outdoor counselling at Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park.
 - Pilates and swim lessons at Candle Lake Provincial Park.
 - Sailing instruction at Katepwa Point Provincial Park.
 - The ministry entered into a new commercial lease agreement to offer a new food service at Echo Valley Provincial Park, with construction expected to start in 2026.
 - Private sector businesses offered 40 special events and participated in 10 ministry-sponsored events. Some of the events included a vintage RV show, a plywood regatta race, Canada Day events, live music events, farmers markets, golf and cornhole tournaments, trail races and more.
 - Lakeview Grill, a privately operated business within Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park, was featured on the Saskatchewan series Flat Out Food in April 2025. Head Chef Joel appeared in an episode highlighting mustard in Saskatchewan and its use in local cuisine.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Reduce red tape to support private sector investment and economic development opportunities.

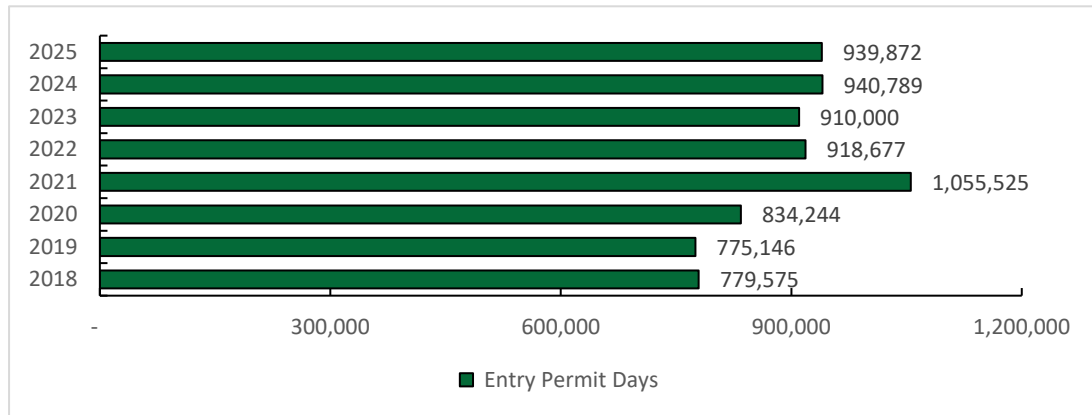
Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- The Heritage Conservation Branch's Online Client Services Initiative will streamline heritage assessments for new development projects.
 - Heritage Resources Screening successfully launched on February 4, 2026.
 - Heritage Resources Screening pre- and post-launch training completed, and demos provided for internal staff, other Government of Saskatchewan users and external clients.

Performance Measure Results:

Visitation to provincial parks

- Increase the number of entry permit days in Saskatchewan in provincial parks.
- Target: Increase entry permit days in 2025-2026 to 945,000.
 - There was a total of 939,872 entry permit days this year.



Economic impact

- Total number of new and expanded private sector offerings in provincial parks.
- Target: 14 new or expanded private sector offerings in 2025-2026.
 - In 2025-2026, there were 14 new private sector offerings in provincial parks.

Turnaround time for development reviews

- Average Heritage Conservation Branch time to review development proposals.
- Target: Review all development proposals within an average of 21 days in 2025-2026.
 - Average development proposal review time in 2025-2026 was 42 days.

Organization Overview

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport — Status of Women Office Overview

Mandate

The Status of Women Office is the sole branch of the Government of Saskatchewan that is responsible for matters related to the status of women. The strategic focus of the Status of Women Office is leading and coordinating the development of policies, programs and other strategic initiatives that support women to live safe, healthy, and prosperous lives.

Mission

Contribute to enhancing Saskatchewan's economic and high quality of life by identifying opportunities and making recommendations that advance the status of women through the development of strategic partnerships to increase their capacity to grow the economy and live high-quality lives.

[2025-26 Parks, Culture and Sport Business Plan](#)

Status of Women Office Progress on Goal 1: Increase Women's Capacity to Grow the Saskatchewan Economy

Increasing women's capacity to grow Saskatchewan's economy contributes to a better quality of life for Saskatchewan families and communities. The Status of Women Office will support achieving this goal by leading and coordinating the development of initiatives that provide opportunities for women and girls in innovation and technology.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Increase capacity in women to work in non-traditional sectors and industries.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Lead the provincial working group to identify and leverage opportunities to increase women's participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) and non-traditional sectors.
 - In 2025-2026, the Women in STEAM Provincial Working Group identified recommendations to increase women's representation in current and emerging sectors and industries.
 - The Status of Women Office sponsored the 2026 Girls in STEAM conference hosted by the Saskatchewan Science Centre. This annual hybrid in-person and live-streamed conference reached across the province to over 98 classrooms and 2,733 participants, a 23 per cent increase in participation from 2025. This conference supports girls with opportunities to engage with women leading work in STEAM areas to support future careers.
- Leverage opportunities with strategic partners to expand existing programs and services that enable greater participation in the economy.
 - The Status of Women Office provided funding to Dress for Success Regina and Saskatoon to support and empower women to achieve economic independence through expansion of employment readiness workshops and networking opportunities.
 - The Status of Women Office sponsored the 2025 Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan Summit which provided education, resources, and practical tools to support women to leverage opportunities to increase business growth including a focus on trade and export development.
- Identify and support opportunities for women and girls that help advance their leadership in Saskatchewan.
 - The Status of Women Office provided funding to YWCA Prince Albert to offer the Power of Being a Girl event which provides opportunities for young girls to build confidence and develop self-esteem.
 - The Status of Women Office provided funding to Soroptimist International of Saskatoon to provide funding for the Dream it, Be It event which educates and empowers young women to create independence and financial stability.

Performance Measure Results:

Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics Sectors

- Target: Develop recommendations that support women's increased representation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEAM) and other non-traditional sectors in Saskatchewan by March 31, 2026.
 - Recommendations were developed to support women's increased representation in STEAM and other non-traditional sectors, with continued work planned for 2026-2027.

Women's Participation in the Economy

- Target: Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to identify programs and services that support women's leadership and greater participation in Saskatchewan's economy by March 31, 2026.
 - Status of Women Office provided funding to three organizations specifically to support initiatives for women to grow their business, advance their leadership and enter non-traditional sectors.

Status of Women Office Progress on Goal 2: Support Women's Health and Well-being

Supporting women's health and well-being contributes to a better quality of life for Saskatchewan families and communities. The Status of Women Office will support this goal by coordinating initiatives that provide opportunities for women and girls that support access to programs and services that increase their overall health and well-being.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Provide leadership and work with partners to identify strategies and initiatives that increase women's access to programs and services that increase their health and well-being.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Lead and support oversight of the Shoppers Foundation for Women's Health Menstrual Equity program in Saskatchewan.
 - In 2025-2026, the Status of Women Office continued to lead and provide oversight of the Shoppers Program. This included providing 700 schools (including school divisions, post-secondary and independent schools) and over 30 shelters and transition houses with free menstrual products.
 - The program pivoted when schools were displaced during the wildfires and worked in collaboration with Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency to provide products to the evacuees.
 - A new three-year agreement was signed with Shoppers Drug Mart and Saskatchewan will receive 12 million free menstrual products between 2026-2029 to continue to support the Shoppers Program.
- Leverage opportunities that support women's health and well-being.
 - The Status of Women Office provided funding for the Inpower Regina, a volunteer run charitable organization founded by cancer survivors to support women facing a cancer diagnosis in Regina and surrounding areas.

Performance Measure Results:

Implementation of the Shoppers Foundation for Women's Health

- Target: Ensure the allotment of products designated for Saskatchewan reached the individuals in schools, shelters, and transition houses by March 31, 2027.
 - In 2025-2026, 4.37 million units were distributed to Saskatchewan schools, transition houses, and women's shelters efficiently and effectively.

Status of Women Office Progress on Goal 3: Prevent Interpersonal Violence and Abuse in Saskatchewan

Preventing interpersonal violence and abuse in Saskatchewan supports strong families and stronger communities. The Status of Women Office will support achieving this goal by leading and coordinating initiatives that prevent interpersonal violence and abuse from occurring.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Lead and coordinate initiatives that increase women's safety, security, and well-being.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Lead Saskatchewan's implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence.
 - The Status of Women Office led Saskatchewan's implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, working collaboratively across the Government of Saskatchewan to support the enhancement and expansion of initiatives to help prevent and end interpersonal violence and abuse. Saskatchewan will receive \$20.3 million in federal funding over four years.
- Support and implement prevention initiatives that target interpersonal violence and abuse.
 - To support the prevention of interpersonal violence and abuse and human trafficking, the Status of Women Office partnered with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General to launch Phase 4 of the Face the Issue interpersonal violence and abuse public awareness campaign and Phase 2 of the Human Trafficking public awareness campaign.
 - The new phase of the Face the Issue campaign focused on the role of bystanders in recognizing and responding to interpersonal violence and abuse; the campaign videos were seen more than seven million times across digital media and television, which led to more than 19,000 new users to the 211 Saskatchewan website to learn about interpersonal violence and abuse and the available resources and supports to people in the province.
 - The new phase of the Human Trafficking campaign focused on survivors, helping people learn about how people, particularly women and girls are lured into human trafficking and how to connect with 211 Saskatchewan to learn more and the available supports. The campaign ran February through March and was seen over a million times on social media and was shared over 500 times on Facebook.
 - The Status of Women Office provided grant funding to five organizations that supported women and girls that focused on prevention initiatives across the province.
 - The Status of Women Office provided one-time capital grant funding to 12 provincially funded transition houses.

- Lead ministry actions that support the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2LGBTQIA+ People National Action Plan and Pathway Forward.
 - The Status of Women Office led Saskatchewan's implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and collaboration with the Ministry of Government Relations to expand the MMIWGS+ Community Response Fund that supports Indigenous-led responses to support the prevention of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and Two Spirit People.
 - The Status of Women Office collaborated with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General and the Ministry of Government Relations to support Saskatchewan's attendance at the fourth annual National Indigenous, Federal, Provincial and Territorial Round Table.
 - In May 2025, the Status of Women Office collaborated with the Ministry of Government Relations to support and promote the Moose Hide Campaign across the Government of Saskatchewan.

Performance Measure Results:

Implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence

- Target: Lead and provide oversight of Saskatchewan's implementation of the national action plan to end interpersonal violence by March 31, 2027.
 - The Status of Women office led and managed oversight of Saskatchewan's implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and worked across government providing strategic leadership in the identification and implementation of Saskatchewan's actions.

Interpersonal violence and abuse prevention initiatives

- Target: Implement grant funding designated for Saskatchewan Status of Women Office under the National Action Plan to end gender-based violence by March 31, 2027.
 - Grant funding (\$100,000) was provided to third-party organizations to support initiatives that focused on education, increased prevention, awareness and supports for survivors.
 - Grant funding (\$310,000) was provided to 12 provincially funded transition houses for one-time capital grant funding to support capital projects to help ensure facilities remain safe and functional for the women and children who rely on them.

2025-26 Improvement and Innovation Highlights

1	Implementation of the Park Ecosystem Health Index (ongoing) - Continued application of Park Ecosystem Health Index to guide management decisions, with a focus on prioritizing parks with lower health scores. The tool informed targeted, evidence-based ecological treatments, including invasive species control, grazing management, and habitat restoration, ensuring resources were directed to areas of greatest ecological need and impact. - Park Ecosystem Health Index outputs were used to identify key pressures on park ecosystems and to develop focused action plans that improve grassland condition, forest health, and overall biodiversity. - The Landscape Protection Unit progressed planning for the five-year recalculation of the Park Ecosystem Health Index, including development of a project plan and initial procurement steps. Due to budget constraints, the recalculation has been deferred to a future year. In the interim, focus has shifted to building internal capacity to independently complete Park Ecosystem Health Index Geographic Information System analyses and modelling. This will enhance long-term program sustainability, reduce reliance on external resources, and improve the ministry's ability to respond to emerging ecosystem pressures in a timely manner.
2	Online Client Services Initiative (ongoing) - Much of the work of the Online Client Services Initiative throughout the year involved building, testing, and refining an online integrated heritage management solution to streamline heritage regulatory processes, with the goal of reducing heritage approval times for clients. This red tape reduction aligns with the Saskatchewan Growth Plan 2020-2030 goals of Regulatory Excellence and Optimization and an Efficient Regulatory and Policy Environment. - The online solution, known as <i>Heritage Resources Screening</i>, was successfully launched in February 2026 and has proven to be a highly stable and functional system available to clients 24/7 (outside of brief routine maintenance shutdowns on weekends). - Focus for the remainder of the year following the launch was on rolling out Heritage Resources Screening to industry, Government of Saskatchewan, and heritage professional clients and providing them with training and support. - Initial results indicate that <i>Heritage Resources Screening</i> is significantly reducing heritage approval wait times for clients.
3	Development and Implementation of a New Program to Fund School Playground Equipment (new)

	• This program is helping support fundraising efforts of local community councils and parent groups that build school playgrounds to meet the needs of their communities. • School playgrounds are important community hubs that promote physical and mental well-being. • Ninety-Four school playground projects across Saskatchewan were approved, totaling \$3.39 million in 2025-2026. • Year two of the program will open in fall 2026.
4	Saskatchewan's Implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, Expansion of the Following Their Voices Program through the Ministry of Education (enhancement) • In the 2025-2026 school year, the initiative expanded to 44 schools, involving 1200 staff members and 18,027 students, including 9,478 self-declared Indigenous students. • The initiative has an active Elders Council that provides guidance and advice on implementation. There are currently 25 active members on the council.
5	Update to the First Nations Gallery at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (enhancement) • The Royal Saskatchewan Museum has made significant progress on updating the Indigenous Gallery, a four-year project. Initial work has focused on meaningful and ongoing engagement with Indigenous communities, stakeholders, Knowledge Keepers, and leaders. This collaborative approach has helped identify key themes, perspectives, and cultural considerations to guide the gallery's design and interpretation. Preliminary conceptual designs have been developed, and curatorial teams continue to advance exhibit content in close partnership with Indigenous advisors, ensuring Indigenous voices and knowledge are reflected at every stage of the project. • In addition to the planning, one component of the gallery has already been started. Métis Elder and artist Margaret Harrison is contributing to the new Indigenous Gallery as Artist in Residence, creating a six-by-ten-foot hand-hooked rug, <i>The Basin of Little Things</i>, which will become a permanent feature; her work is reviving the culturally and historically significant practice of rug hooking. She also has been teaching public workshops and in-gallery engagement, allowing visitors to observe the piece in progress, learn techniques, and connect with Métis teachings and cultural symbolism. • Looking ahead, more detailed planning and continued engagement with Indigenous communities, Knowledge Keepers, and stakeholders will advance throughout 2026–2027, with full development and construction of the renewed Indigenous Gallery currently targeted for 2029–2030. This project will modernize a highly valued but outdated space, creating an inclusive, culturally respectful, and educational environment that strengthens reconciliation, enhances student learning, and increases visitation and tourism. The new space will benefit Saskatchewan residents by supporting cultural understanding, expanding educational opportunities, and driving economic activity through increased museum attendance. In doing so, the project aligns with the Government of Saskatchewan's Growth Plan by contributing to population retention and attraction, tourism development, and a more inclusive and prosperous province.

Financial Summary

The ministry's appropriation for 2025-2026 was \$100.494 million. Including a non-appropriated expense of \$8.23 million (less capital asset acquisitions of \$15.204 million), the ministry's total approved expense for 2025-2026 was \$93.52 million.

Total 2025-2026 actual expenses were \$93.038 million, a variance of \$482,000 from the expense estimate.

The ministry's budgeted revenue for the 2025-2026 fiscal year was \$9.651 million. The 2025-2026 actual revenue was \$10.067 million, a variance of \$416,000 from the revenue estimate.

The ministry's actual FTE utilization was 448.3.

Additional financial information can be found in Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts located at publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/893.

Expense Summary

The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted expenditures by subvote and subprogram. Variance explanations are provided for all variances that are greater than 10 per cent.

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

Subvote/Subprogram	2024-25 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Budget (\$000s)	2025-26 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)	
Central Management Services	10,959	9,363	10,742	1,379	
Minister's Salary (Statutory)	58	57	60	3	
Executive Management	679	859	679	(180)	1
Central Services	4,834	4,544	5,087	543	2
Status of Women	662	697	1,012	315	3
Accommodation Services	4,726	3,206	3,904	698	2
Parks	32,523	30,821	31,669	848	
Provincial Park Programs	4,360	4,368	4,559	191	
Park Capital Projects	12,980	12,500	12,594	94	
Parks Preventative Maintenance	1,704	2,207	2,170	(37)	
Regional Parks	1,230	2,230	2,230	0	
Urban Parks	513	513	513	0	
Commercial Revolving Fund - Subsidy	11,736	9,003	9,603	600	

Resource Stewardship	8,554	10,630	10,265	(365)	
Operational Support	2,945	2,713	3,009	296	
Francophone Affairs	1,038	1,258	1,130	(128)	
Support for Provincial Heritage and Culture	840	821	804	(17)	
Royal Saskatchewan Museum	3,721	5,838	5,322	(516)	
Community Engagement	44,833	49,680	48,011	(1,669)	
Community Sport, Culture and Recreation Programs	3,022	8,450	8,682	232	
Active Families Benefit	1,000	3,890	1,100	(2,790)	4
Heritage Institutions and Saskatchewan Science Center	6,451	5,551	5,551	0	
Saskatchewan Arts Board	6,775	6,879	6,879	0	
Community Initiatives Fund	9,664	8,477	9,366	889	5
Creative Saskatchewan	17,613	16,125	16,125	0	
Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation	308	308	308	0	
Total Appropriation	96,859	100,494	100,687	193	
Other Non-Expense Appropriations	115	-	37	37	
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(14,058)	(15,204)	(15,186)	18	
Capital Asset Amortization	6,979	8,230	7,500	(730)	
Total Expense	89,895	93,520	93,038	(482)	

Notes:

1. Variance due to vacancy management and operating expenses.
2. Variance due to expenses exceeding the appropriation with no corresponding funding.
3. Variance due to additional grant funding provided.
4. Variance due to actual program utilization expenses lower than estimates.
5. Variance due to share of casino net profits greater than estimates.

Revenue Summary

The ministry's actual revenue for the 2025-2026 fiscal year was \$10.067 million. The budgeted revenue was \$9.651 million, resulting in a \$416,000 variance of actual from budget.

The ministry receives funding from the Federal Government under a Federal-Provincial Sport Bilateral Agreement, a French-language Services Agreement, the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence and may receive funding through application for eligible federal programming. All revenue collected is deposited in the General Revenue Fund. A summary of the ministry's 2025-2026 budgeted revenue compared to actual revenue is presented below. Variance explanations are provided for all variances greater than \$100,000.

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport Revenue

Revenue Category	2024-25 Actual (\$000s)	2025-26 Estimate (\$000s)	2025-26 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)
Other Own-source Revenue				
Other Fees and Charges	113	105	26	(79)
Miscellaneous	4,322	50	586	536 ¹
Subtotal	4,435	155	612	457
Transfer from the Federal Govt	7,954	9,496	9,455	(41)
Total Revenue	12,389	9,651	10,067	416

Notes:

1. Reduction of accruals to align with program utilization.

Additional financial information can be found in the Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts located at <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/893>.

Revolving Funds

Commercial Revolving Fund

The Commercial Revolving Fund is the financing mechanism for collection and distribution of funds used in the operation of Saskatchewan's parks, recreation sites, and historic parks. The purpose of this revolving fund is to pay for activities required to support the management, development, and promotion of provincial parks. The Commercial Revolving Fund receives revenue from a variety of activities that take place within provincial parks and recreation sites, such as camping, entry gate permits, cottage lot leases, leased commercial facilities (stores, marinas, cabin rentals, etc.), resource use activities and other miscellaneous items. Expenditures within the Commercial Revolving Fund contribute to the operation of the provincial park system and are made to ensure safe public enjoyment of provincial parks and recreation sites.

The Commercial Revolving Fund operations under the authority of Section 18 of *The Natural Resources Act* and is administered by the ministry. The Commercial Revolving Fund contains and records the direct operating revenues and expenditures associated with delivering the parks program.

The following table outlines summary information on budgeted and unaudited results for 2025-2026 related to the operation of the fund. Audited financial statements will be available at: [Publications Centre](#).

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport Expense Actuals

<i>Based on unaudited figures for 2025-26</i>				
Revenue Category	2024-25 Actual (\$000s)	2025-26 Estimate (\$000s)	2025-26 Actual (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)
Revenue	24,509	24,702	27,970	3,268 ¹
Expenses				
Salaries	20,226	20,412	21,544	1,132
Operating Expenses	14,855	13,300	16,882	3,582
Total Expenses	35,081	33,712	38,426	4,714
Net (Loss) Profit	(10,572)	(9,010)	(10,456)	(1,446)
Subsidy from the General Revenue Fund	11,736	9,003	9,603	600 ²
Net (Loss) Profit after subsidy	1,164	(7)	(853)	(846)
Accumulated Operating (deficit) Surplus, end of year	911		58	(853)

Notes:

1. Variance due to additional funding received from the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program to support wildfire cleanup and reclamation efforts undertaken during the year.

2. Variance due to higher expenses associated with wildfire cleanup and reclamation efforts undertaken during the year, as well as increased compensation costs arising from the ratification of the collective bargaining agreement and corresponding adjustments for out-of-scope employees.