

# ISSUE IN FOCUS



*Celebrating 100 Years*

SASKATCHEWAN  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

## Saskatchewan Environmental Management Model and Code

### Background:

The current Saskatchewan model for environmental management has been primarily based on a legislative framework with approval requirements, prohibitions, and prescriptive regulations. Provincial environmental legislation has been developed over the last 30 years and requires continuing revision to accelerate harmonization with other provinces, reduce duplication within and between governments, and change the primary allocation and assumption of responsibility for environmental performance.

### Issue:

While it is key to have the benefits of implementing the Model through the Code that has been developed, it is also critical to continue the updating of provincial processes to meet the Model.

It is critical to these functions that the provincial government accelerate the implementation of a public provincial environmental information system with detail on environmental areas, media and ecosystem indicator data, and status with respect to critical threshold states.

It is also the appropriate time to plan the needed overall process for periodic feedback, assessment, and review of the environmental management mechanisms. This should be a five to ten-year cycle where the provincial government and stakeholders review the environmental effectiveness and outcomes from the Code, the public information database, and the environmental management system.

### Recommendations:

1. That the provincial government advance the development of the needed public provincial environmental information system with detail on environmental areas, media and ecosystem indicator data, and status with respect to critical

threshold states (e.g. air, soil and water quality, ecological diversity, habitat, etc.).

2. That the provincial government proceed as quickly as possible to continue the development of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code in consultation with the Code Advisory Committee for ongoing promulgation.
3. That the provincial government move as quickly as possible to develop appropriate Code chapter(s) with respect to water regulation.
4. That the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (SWSA) adopt a Results-Based regulatory model and the use of the Code (as agreed when SWSA was formed).
5. That the provincial government put in place legislation to facilitate adoption of a Results-Based regulatory model and the use of the Code for environmental activities throughout all Ministries.
6. That Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce members strive to adopt the Model and Code in their own businesses.

## **History:**

Adopted Policy Resolution 2007

Adopted Policy Resolution 2008

Adopted Policy Resolution 2009

Adopted Policy Resolution 2013

Adopted Policy Resolution 2014

Adopted Policy Resolution 2017