

Environment Committee 2021/2022 Work Plan

(Updated December 2021)

OBJECTIVES	PRIORITIES FOR 2021/2022
1. Climate Change/Greenhouse Gases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Respond to and provide proactive input to federal and provincial climate change/GHG legislation implementation and changes (OBPS, carbon tax, GHG reporting, compliance mechanisms, offset systems, Tech Fund, etc.). b. Promote the Energy Efficiency Policy, including specific energy efficiency programs for business such as building envelope, lighting and motors, implementation of green infrastructure, etc. c. Continue to monitor and engage in discussions associated with the net zero target, including the evaluation of all areas that might transition Saskatchewan to a low carbon economy (carbon capture and storage, SMRs, renewable energy, hydrogen, etc.). d. Continue to monitor and engage in discussions associated with the Clean Fuel Standard (Ministry of Energy & Resources and ECCC). e. Monitor developments associated with the TCFD (Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure).
2. Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Support the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce (SCC) Water Council in policy, including revisions to SCC policies when needed. b. Maintain linkage to climate resiliency work for water. c. Continue to engage with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Water Security Association (WSA) on changes to and implementation of water related legislation and policies (Wetland Compensation Policy & Guidelines, maintenance of agricultural wetlands, invasive aquatic species, etc.) d. Participate with Watershed Associations. e. Engage in the development of the new Canada Water Agency. f. Support the Water Council and WSA in the development of drought and flood planning.
3. Modernization of Environmental Management / Results Based Regulation Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to support MOE with their move towards the implementation of a results based regulatory model, including participation in advisory committees and content development where applicable. b. Search for partnerships to further the objectives and further implementation, including the continued dialogue with ENGOs, SK Eco Network, SUMA and SARM. c. Continue to contribute to updating the Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Guidelines.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Encourage the Government of Saskatchewan to continue red tape reduction efforts, especially in revising the <i>Hazardous Substance and Waste Dangerous Goods Storage Regulations</i> into the Environmental Code. e. Continue to engage with the MOE on the development of their Waste Management Strategy and encourage the strategy to be implemented in the Environmental Code.
<p>4. Inter-jurisdictional Shifts/Coordination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Interface with Federal Government regarding the Impact Assessment Agency/ Impact Assessment Act. b. Monitor increased activity by DFO regarding habitat by DFO and coordinated permitting, standards and codes of practice with the MOE. c. Continue to monitor the Duty to Consult. d. Respond to increased activity re: CEPA by Environment Canada and Health Canada. In particular, the way in which the substances are managed through the CMP (chemical management plan) and CEPA schedules. e. Monitor and proactive engagement on annual government budgets, specific to environmental subject matter areas. f. Meet jointly with Ministers of Environment, Energy and Resources, and Government Relations, and tie to activities on climate change (i.e., energy efficiency). g. Work to promote coordination with federal government but led by Saskatchewan, reduce regulation duplication and promote overall red tape reduction. i.e., WSA/MOE, CEPA/MOE, DFO/MOE. h. Monitor Biodiversity strategy – implications for EIA, Crown Land Management, Species at Risk Act and land reservation incentives. i. Resource management (sustainability) – sustainability reporting and ESG controls/ standards.
<p>5. Air Quality Management Systems (AQMS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to monitor developing air legislation (particular criteria air contaminants including ammonium and ozone depleting substances). b. Base Level Industrial Emission Requirements (BLIER) implementation. c. Increase involvement in the development of Air Management Zones. d. Monitor proposed federal VOC (volatile organic compounds) regulations.
<p>6. Species at Risk Act</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Caribou Habitat Policy – continue to engage with provincial government on the development of the provincial range plans for woodland caribou.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Address the issue of management of species at risk through the “South of the Divide” landscape-based approach with the province. c. Continue engagement with MOE and ECCC on SARA and monitor and respond on documents. d. Continual review of the list of species at risk and measures therefor.
<p>7. Other Regulatory and Legislation Topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Provincial Lands Act</i>. b. Grassland Compensation. c. CEPA reform/review participation/PSL notifications/PCB regulations. d. Track NPRI developments and advocate where needed. e. Solid Waste Management – Waste Management Laws. Seek HAZMAT and industrial waste landfills for Saskatchewan. f. Plastic files. g. Changes to federal E2 regulations. h. CEPA reform/review participation/PSL notifications/PCB regulations.
<p>8. Member Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to inform members and other local chambers of the issues surrounding Environmental legislation and regulation, including updating the SCC website and providing numerical performance feedback to members where appropriate. b. Continue to provide information on reducing emissions and improving energy efficiency (e.g., specific energy efficiency programs for business such as building envelope, lighting and motors, etc.), multi-recycling programs, encouragement to maintain environmental systems similar to ISO 14001, ESG reporting, and other environmental topics relevant to Saskatchewan. c. Continue to maintain the cooperative relationship with provincial government departments and officials to provide better communication, advocacy and awareness for members. d. Continue to meet with Environment caucus (twice annually). e. Capitalize on Earth Day (April 22, 2022). f. Collaborate with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. g. Prepare SCC position papers (on an issue basis when needed).