



What is it?

- It is a Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure program to sustain and improve shortline railway infrastructure, such as rehabilitation or track-related assets.

Why is the shortline railway sector important to Saskatchewan?

- It is important because it helps link Saskatchewan's export-based economy to provincial, national and worldwide markets; provides shippers with another effective transportation option; supports economic development in rural Saskatchewan; and contributes to reducing truck traffic congestion, related greenhouse gases and road wear, along with improving safety.

Why is this program needed?

- The program is required because shortline railways have aging infrastructure that needs to be maintained and upgraded so Saskatchewan's transportation system can meet current and future needs. The province wants to ensure the benefits of shortline railways to the economy are sustainable.

What kinds of projects are eligible for provincial funding?

- Provincial funding is available for shortline railway projects that are a priority, such as safety improvements and track rehabilitation to improve efficiency.

How will projects be selected?

- Applications will be reviewed by a five-member panel, which consist of two Ministry representatives, two Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) representatives and one Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) representative.

How does the funding work?

The applicant and the Ministry will cover half (50/50) the cost of an approved project.

Who can apply for the program?

All of Saskatchewan eight shortline railway companies.

When is the deadline for applications?

- Eligible shortline railways are urged to apply as soon as possible.