

Media Backgrounder – Sept. 11, 2008 Mid-Year Increase for CBOs

Advanced Education, Employment and Labour

The Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour supports community-based organizations (CBOs) throughout Saskatchewan that provide a broad range of services. This includes:

- Through Career and Employment Services Branch – specialized career and employment services for individuals facing multiple barriers to employment, complementing the services of the 20 Canada-Saskatchewan Career and Employment Services offices;
- Through Programs Branch - vocational and career counseling for people with disabilities, as well as assistance for them to obtain financial support for programs that teach employability skills; and
- Through Immigration Branch - settlement counselling and supports, needs assessment and referral services and English language instruction.

Overall, the Ministry will provide over \$13 million in 2008-09 to support the work of approximately 90 community-based service providers.

Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

The Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing provides \$5.8 million in funding to 36 CBOs that provide a variety of services to youth and adults in conflict with the law. The types of programs funded by CPSP include:

- Youth Alternative Measures Programs, which provides a front-end alternative to formal court proceedings for youth;
- The Community Service Order Program, which provides a way for offenders to complete court ordered community service;
- A number of support programs such as First Nations Reintegration Programs, Day Programs and other targeted support programs that provide intensively supervised programming to high need youth and, in some cases, young adults, including cultural programming, reintegration planning, life skills, employment training, educational support and suggestions for constructive use of leisure time;
- Youth Restitution Programs, designed to assist young persons in conflict with the law to secure meaningful ways to provide financial reparation to the victim(s) of their crimes; and
- Residential Programs that provide a continuum of non-custodial, residential support to youth involved in the youth justice system. A contract also exists with a Tribal Council for a healing lodge for adult male offenders.

Health

The Ministry of Health either directly funds, or indirectly funds through Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), a variety of CBOs to enhance and support programs in fields such as:

- mental health;
- addictions;
- sexual health;
- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; and
- services for Saskatchewan seniors.

The Ministry of Health will provide more than \$12 million directly to approximately 63 CBOs in 2008-09. The Ministry is working with RHAs to ensure all CBOs that are contracted to provide human services on behalf of RHAs will benefit from the increased financial services.

Education

The Ministry of Education supports more than 230 CBOs across the province to provide children and families with childcare and early learning supports. In addition, the Ministry provides support to CBOs to promote the development of literacy skills as a foundation of Saskatchewan's social and economic growth.

CBOs funded by the Ministry include:

- Early Learning and Child Care Centres;
- Early Childhood Intervention Programs;
- KidsFirst home visiting agencies;
- Literacy programs;
- French parent and child support programs; and
- Educational programs and services for students with intensive needs.

Overall, the Ministry will provide more than \$45 million in 2008-09 to support the work of these organizations.

Justice and Attorney General

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General supports a range of community-based justice initiatives that aim to improve the effectiveness of the criminal justice system for victims, communities and offenders. In this, the Ministry works closely with the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, which is responsible for providing justice services to young offenders, and co-funds Aboriginal community-based justice programs with the Aboriginal Justice Directorate of Justice Canada.

These community-based programs emphasize healing and rehabilitation while holding offenders accountable for the harms done to the victim and the community. As well, the Ministry provides funds to support:

- community- and police-based victims services
- crime prevention programs
- public education programs, and
- Aboriginal courtwork services.

Overall, the Ministry will provide up to \$6.4 million in 2008-09 to support the work of 93 community-based service providers.

Social Services

The Ministry of Social Services provides funding to and works collaboratively with approximately 307 CBOs. The Ministry will provide \$99.5 million in 2008-09 to support the work of these community-based service providers in the following areas:

- Emergency supports, such as those provided by the Mobile Crisis Units in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert, include emergency child protection services, domestic violence intervention, suicide intervention and income assistance services;
- First Nations Child and Family Services on reserve; and
- Family supports programs, including in home supports for children at risk, parent aide services, and First Nations family services providing case management supports for off-reserve cases.