Future Options for Liquor Retailing in Saskatchewan

Government of Saskatchewan

PUBLIC CONSULTATION SURVEY RESULTS AND FEEDBACK

On Nov. 4, 2014, the Government of Saskatchewan launched a public consultation process regarding the future of liquor retailing. The consultation website, www.saskatchewan.ca/liquorretail, included background information, a snapshot of liquor retailing in other jurisdictions as well as a short survey. At the completion of the survey, respondents were invited to submit any other comments they wanted to make.

The consultation wrapped up Jan. 30, 2015. A total of 7,618 people visited the consultation website, with 6,604 of those visitors completing the survey. More than 3,000 people also took the opportunity to submit personal comments.

In addition to opinions received through the consultation website, government received feedback via 'form' letters in support of the current liquor retail system.

At a glance

Visitors to consultation website: 7,618

# of completed surveys: 6,604

# of personal comments: 3,000+

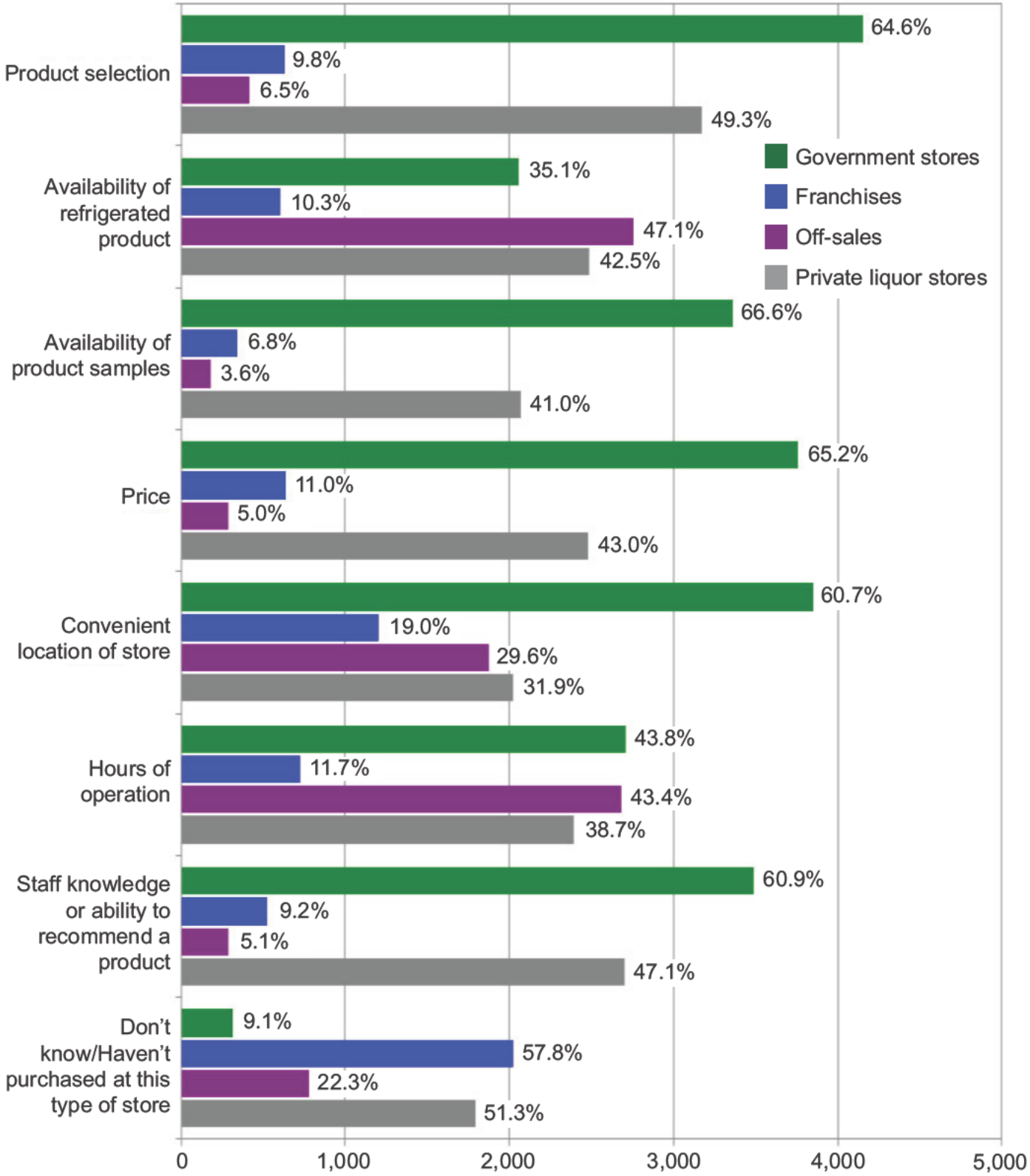
Key stakeholders were also invited to present their views to government. Some groups held face-to-face meetings with the Minister Responsible for SLGA while others submitted written comments. Any written comments received from these stakeholder groups are posted on the consultation website.

This document provides a summary of the results of the consultation process – including both survey results and comments submitted via the consultation website.

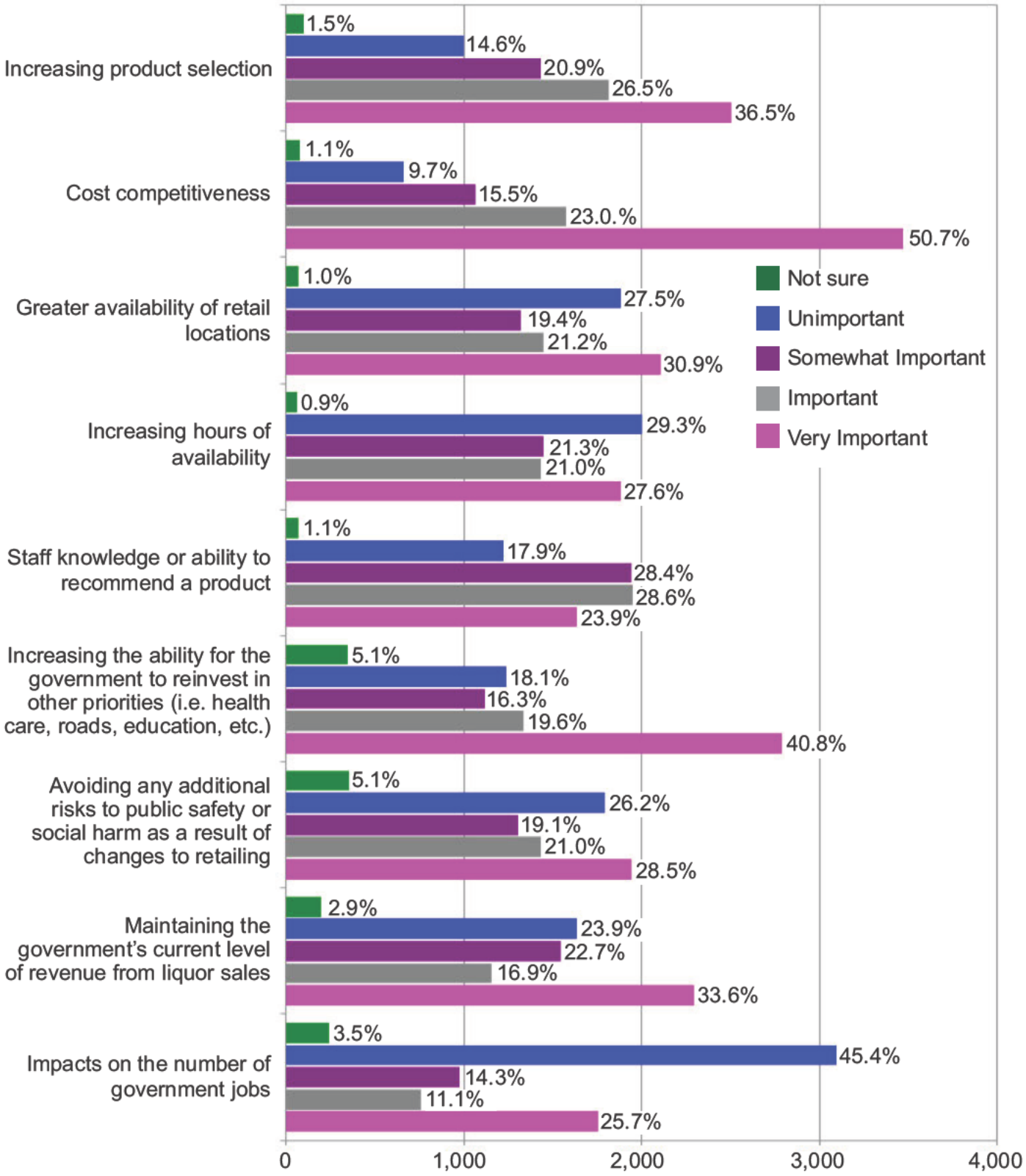
Government will consider all feedback received when forming its decision regarding the future of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan.

Survey results

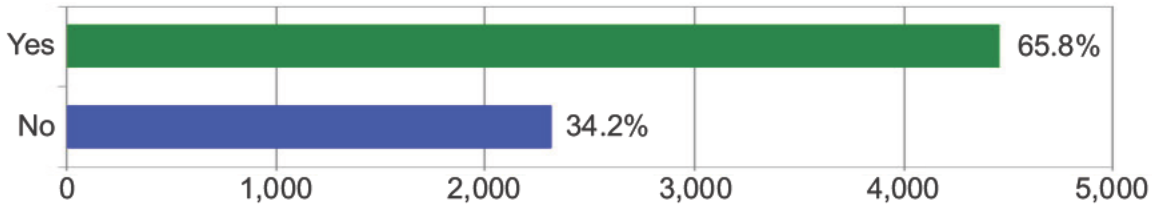
Question 1: There are currently four different types of stores where you can purchase alcohol in Saskatchewan – government stores, franchises, off-sales and private full-line liquor stores. Please indicate the primary reasons you choose the following type of retailer. Check all that apply. (Note: Respondents could select more than one answer. Therefore, totals may exceed 100 per cent.)



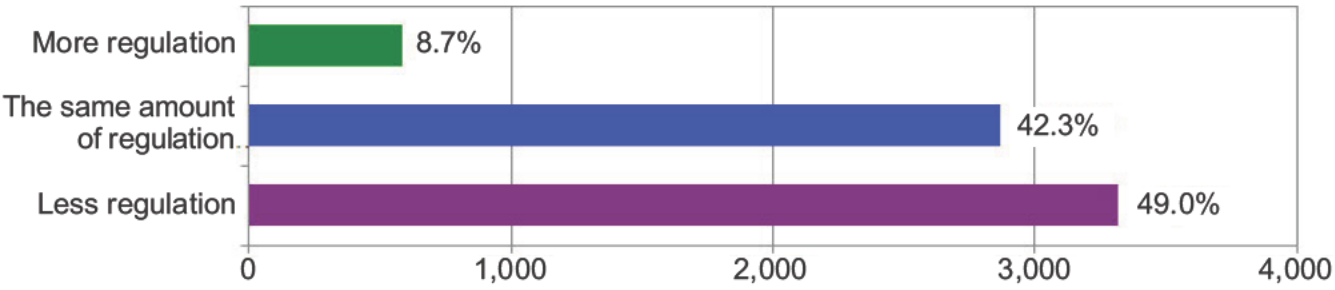
Question 2: How would you rate the importance of the following when considering potential changes to liquor retailing in Saskatchewan?



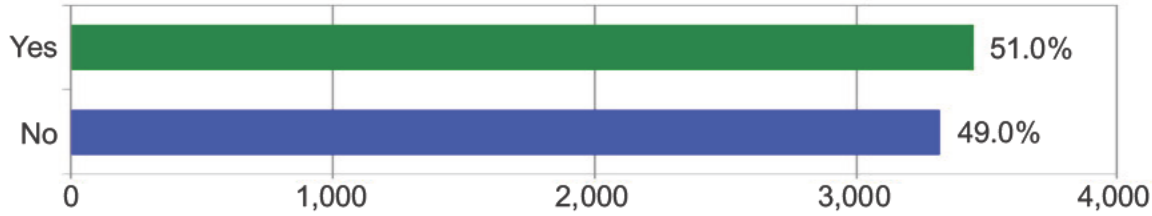
Question 3: Would you support the sale of liquor outside of dedicated liquor retail establishments, for example, grocery stores?



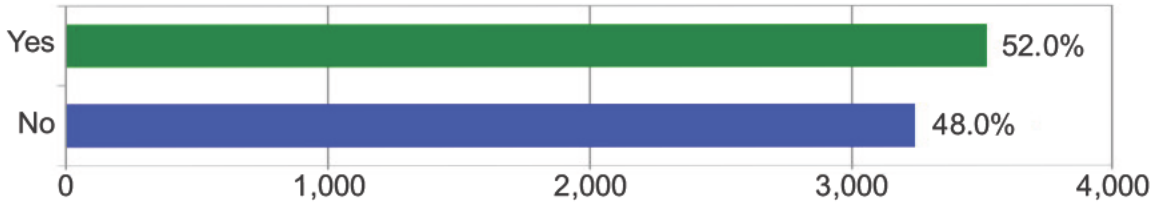
Question 4: How much regulation do you think the government should put on the availability of alcohol?



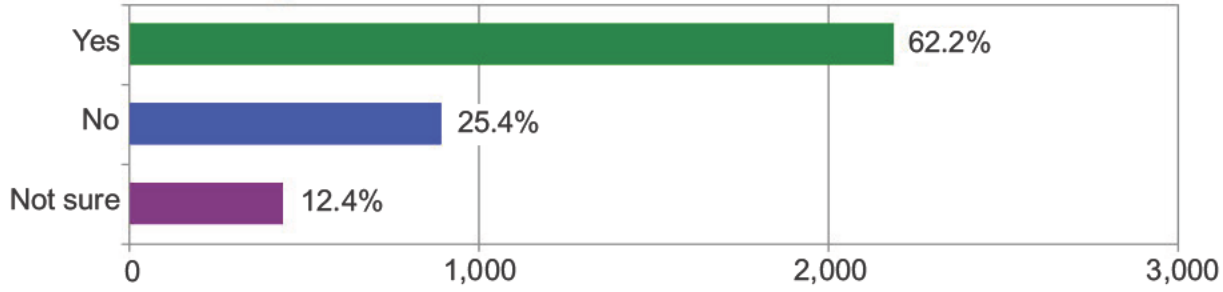
Question 5: Would you support government policies that limit the number of stores that retail alcohol within a given area?



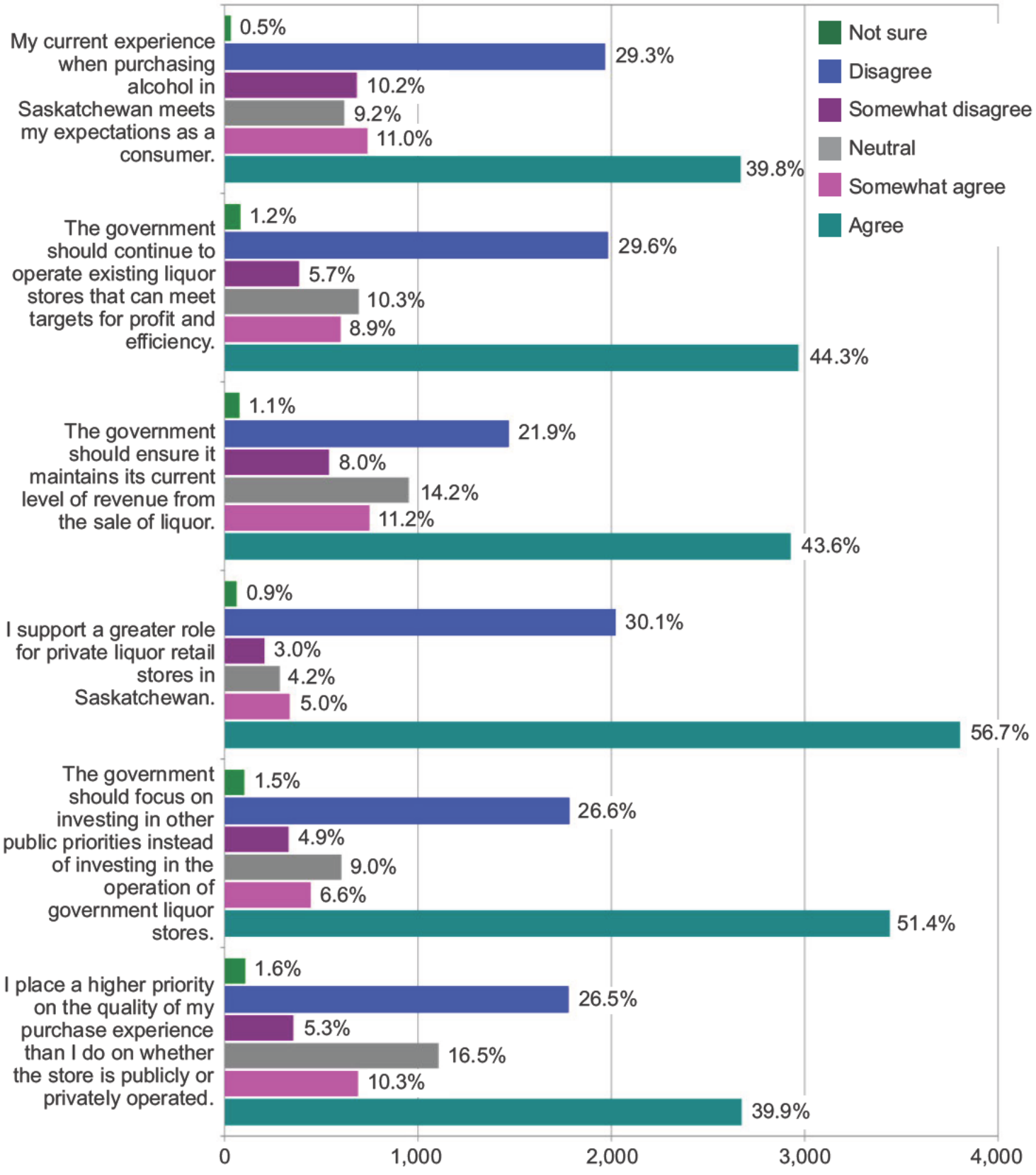
Question 6: Have you visited one of the private full-line liquor stores in Regina (Willow Park) or Saskatoon (Sobeys or Co-op)?



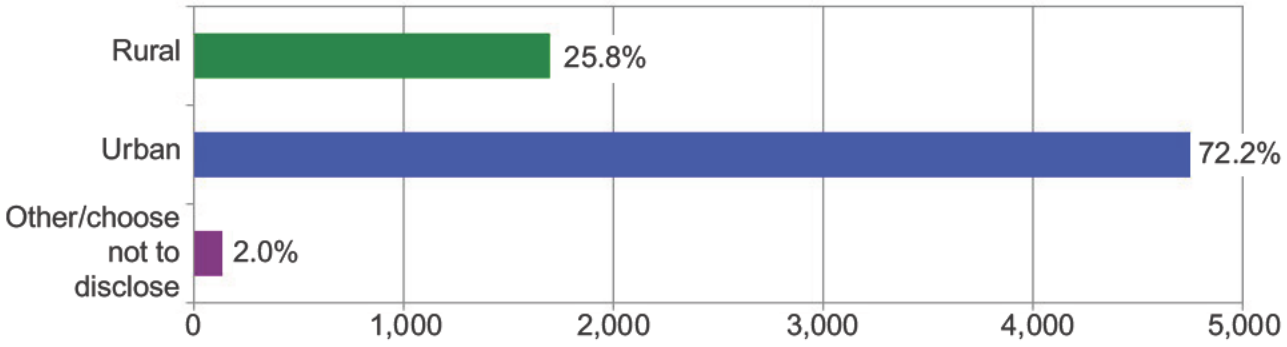
Question 7: What is the likelihood that you would recommend the private liquor store you visited to a friend or colleague?



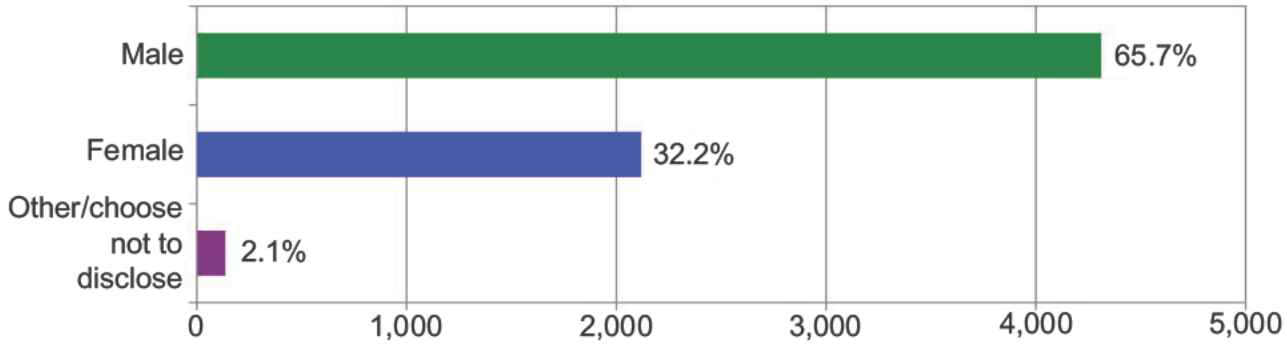
Question 8: How would you rate the importance of the following when considering potential changes to liquor retailing in Saskatchewan?



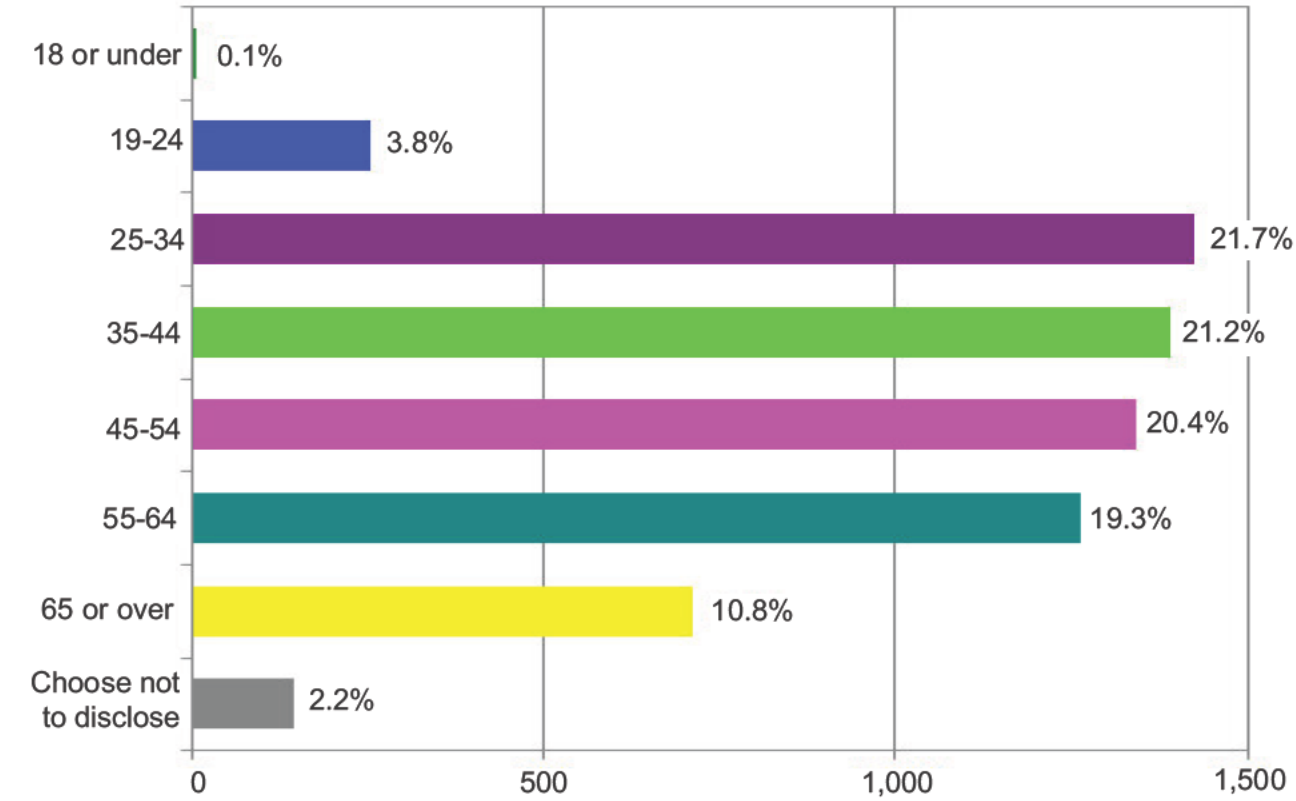
Question 9: Which of the following best describes your place of residence in Saskatchewan:



Question 10: Which of the following best describes your gender:



Question 11: What age are you?



The following are the views and opinions submitted via the consultation website. The comments appear verbatim, with only minimal editing of information such as names, phone numbers, e-mail address, profanities, etc.

I also happen to work for a licensee that frequently makes special orders through SLGA, for wine and liquor.

Reading the information available, it appears that the SLGA will still operate warehouse functions and all alcohol coming in to Saskatchewan will still flow through the SLGA. This is actually one of the biggest problems I have with the SLGA.

The system for special ordering, especially for licensees, is inefficient and non nearly as transparent as it needs to be. If the current system of SLGA warehousing is to be maintained, I hope that the province moves away from operating their own stores and instead reinvests the resources into making their system more efficient.

This province needs to arrive in the 21st century when it comes to alcohol consumption, and limiting both individuals and establishments in their ability to easily access a larger selection doesn't help anyone.

More private stores and liquor in grocery stores please.

Please privatize everything.

I would support the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores so long as tax revenue is still used for positive social services as it currently is through the crown corporation liquor stores. Alcohol is harmful, but it is also a facet of our culture and society. It is essential that the government retains its ability to regulate the sale of liquor and to use revenue from its sale to offset some of the ills that go along with alcohol consumption. We derive a lot of revenue from the current system, and I feel more comfortable with keeping that money within the province and within the crown corporation where it can be cycled through government programs that benefit people in Saskatchewan. I do not feel comfortable with allowing out-of-province companies to reap the benefits of liquor sales without giving anything back to our communities. For me, the ideal system is one where our public stores remain viable (I find that the staff at these stores are very nice and helpful, and carry more knowledge than their counterparts in private stores), but where we can also purchase beer and wine at grocery stores. I would like to see some kind of a system where the tax revenue generated from such sales are directly filtered back into government services.

The current mixed system is meeting the needs of the province. The revenue generated remains with the province to maintain government priorities. In a private system the revenue generated could potentially leave the province. Where would the shortfall be recaptured? The government liquor retailing provides employees with "living" wages that they in turn spend in their communities and province. The statement regarding the revenue gain from the sale of gov't stores is misleading. In rural Sask these building will probably be given away generating $0 and a good number of stores in the larger centers are in leased spaces = $0. Who will monitor the social responsibility aspect of private liquor retailing?

Just a few thoughts, Thank you

What would happen to all those people who work for SLGA? How much would our taxes go up if we went Private? Everything should stay the same. We all learnt that Privatizing government run business cost us more, and we would never get the same service as SLGA would give us.

The convenience of making liquor available in something like a grocery store, along with an increase in product selection make this switch a no-brainer!

Government should do for the people what people cannot do for themselves. We can operate liquor stores.

The government should not give up on the revenue generated from alcohol sales. Having seen numbers from other provinces such as the AGLC, provinces like Alberta have made lots of mistakes that have lead to massive amounts of missed revenue. Government stores also help local products get to market easier than with big corporate chains. Allowing more private full serve stores should be allowed but the government should really focus on better selection and making money.

It would be great to be able to pick up a bottle of wine or a case of beer and ingredients for supper at the same place. To be fair I don't mind making a second stop but having my wife expecting twins in a few months the logistics of running errands with children seems daunting. Like I said, they aren't here yet but only time will tell. The fewer amount of stops I would have to make would be great. I've been to the U.S. and it is so convenient to be able to pick something up when you are stopping to pick up something for dinner anyway.

Take a page out of Alberta on how they run the liquor stores, franchises and private

---

I do enjoy the Quebec model of retailing liquor and would support paying slightly more for increased ease of access (depanneur system, gas stations/grocery stores w/ hard liquor [and quality products] only sold until 9 and only at government liquor stores).

-

I don't believe that the statement regarding health care and education is accurate, where would they get the resources without having the money from the liquor sales. The profit each year that the government makes on liquor sales does go back into those

areas. I don't believe that Mr Wall and "his government" will take any notice of what the public wants and will privatize stores because that is what he and "his government" have always wanted. I do not want the government owned stores privatized, if I did I would be living in Alberta!!!

Private retail is the way we need to go for the future

More privatization is needed provided gov't is regulating. Needs to be similar to Alberta with more competitive prices and options.

The Governement seems to be high on selling all its crowns to line the pockets of some indiduals or larger companies. If large companies want a piece of the pie don't you think that it must be a money maker or they wouldn't want to get involved. The monies go to highways, education and health care. These are thinga all people of Saskatchewan need and want.

Wall is big on promoting the quality jobs in Sask. but eager, and wouldn't blink an eye to take away quality jobs from the current employees of SLGA. Yes we they can get other jobs in the industry if opened up but the quality will not be as good and we know the price of alchol will not be going down, since when has anything been lowered in price when privitized? I think this could be a huge mistake and the people that work at SLGA who raise a family will be the ones suffering. As I am told the average income of a fulltime employee at SLGA is not much more than $55,000.00. That is not a huge wage to raise a family on.

Saskatchewan is a wonderull place to live and fortunatley is in a good economical position right now. Don't mess up things that are working. The cosumer wasn't even thinking about privitization until Wall put it out there. Wonder whats in it for his friends or family.

Alberta has survived privatizing their liquor stores. The government should focus on other priorities other than retail liquor. I don't want to pay inflated prices and have minimal selection. The sales that are available in Alberta, are significantly lower than what one can purchase here in Sask and because of the number of stores available, finding a sale is not difficult.

We should let Sask business have the opportunity to creates jobs and a service without government interference and government prices. Time to treat SK residents as adults. Also, the government has a decent policy thus far of not spending public dollars on new liquor stores. However, this should be extended- our current stores should be sold off. Why are we spending public dollars on upkeep of current liquor stores? I'd rather have a better highway than have the government worrying about retail store upkeep. The hours are brutal at current stores, and the locations are few and far between. Why I can't go to Costco or Sobey's and buy liquor like Albertan's can is ridiculous. The world will not fall apart with private liquor. And we will still bring in money through sales and corporate tax revenue.

Finally, the argument that public stores help deter social harm is also ridiculous. You can buy liquor at all times of the night at private stores (though at a stupid price). If someone really wants liquor due to addiction, the extra 7 dollars per 12 pack will not stop them. However, this done annoy the hell out of a lot of other people, who have to pay very high prices just for a beer.

I just want to have a nice selection of beer and liquor, I don't particularly care who I'm buying it from. That said, it would seem the gov't stores have little interest in providing consumers with choice and prefer to stick with offerings of macro producers.

The selection provided by the private stores in Regina and Saskatoon has been a great upgrade. However I sense that the bureaucracy these stores have to deal with in the requirement of purchasing their product through the SLGA is a barrier to even better selection for Saskatchewan consumers. Why can't private stores order directly from distributors, providing SLGA still gets their cut?

It's really frustrating to see the selection available at equivalent stores in AB compared to what is available in the SK stores (ie Willow Park). This tells me there is something broken in our system.

The Government "mark-up" on liquor sales in am embarrassment. It should be reduced or removed completely.

Government should privatize the wholesale sale of alcohol and create a competitive market for selling alcohol.

Why is Government involved in the sale and regulation of alcohol? It should be entirely a private enterprise.

I really think that Saskatchewan needs to goto a system simular to Alberta for liquor sales. There system works, it is cheaper, and I can get a beer for at home when I want it.

I can get, and quite often do when I am in Alberta, a 50 pack of beer for $70. I can't even get 30 of the same beer for that here. A greater selection would be good as well. Espically of all the great Canadian made craft beers that are out there now, not to mention the spirts.

Recently moving from BC to Saskatchewan I find the cost of alcohol over the top and the selection poor. I also think that the Sask Liq board should utilize technology by having an APP for their stores featuring new items and taking customer inputs. BC has one its a good resource.

I think that all liquor outlets should be privately run with the business owner setting the price and hours of operation. The government could charge a nominal royalty fee on every ounce sold if they still wanted a profit from the alcohol sales. Then they could save money in wages and benefits to government employees. Also sell off all the public liquor stores that are currently run

by the government.
Government has a role in business and services, but that role should not extend to the sale of liquor. Saskatchewan residents are cable people that have the sound ability to make decisions for themselves, and are rational enough to realize that choice, and more of it, is better. In addition, if the sole purpose of government liquor stores is to provide well-paying jobs to union members, as SGEU purports, this is even more of a reason to seriously consider privatization of liquor stores. The idea that only union or public employees can safely and responsibly sell liquor is absurd, and shouldn't even be acknowledged as something to consider.
Government should regulate and enforce, let private sector set price of products and hours of operation like they do now with tobacco.
No new government stores should be open. As they become unprofitable, close the stores and all new stores should be private stores. The government should also not be using the price of alcohol to govern social policies.
SLGA has a very poor selection and high prices compared to both Alberta and Manitoba in my experience. I often will buy bulk when I travel because the savings. I would like to support Saskatchewan, but not when the markup is so incredibly high and I don't honestly see the benefits.
There should be no population limits for offsale
Liquor should be sold in convenience stores and gas stations. Government should make it's revenue from taxes, not from liquor sales.
I have been to both Private liquor stores in Saskatoon and they are phenomenal. There product selection is superior to any other liquor store in the province and the cold beer selection is 10X better than any Government owned liquor store. It is like prohibition in socialist Saskatchewan has been lifted!! I am a supporter of selling the Government owned liqour stores, but having the Government still regulate and profit from the industry. I don't mind paying a higher price than other Provinces, alcohol should be expensive, it is a major cause of hospital visits. With that being said, the Government liquor stores are pretty good. They've got decent locations, solid staff, and a decent selection. The cold beer selection is awful, the hours are horrible (why do half the Saskatoon locations close at 6??), and in 2014 with an insane amount of jobs available in SK, I don't think the Government needs to operate liquor stores. It isn't fair to other private business when someone can get paid $20/hr to stand at a counter and sell alcohol. What I absolutely don't agree with is "Off-Sales". There is no reason I should have to pay double the price just because it is after 9pm. The private liquor stores help address this slightly by being open until 10pm, but they should be open until 12am. Thanks! Go Private Liquor Stores.
Privatization of everything is NOT the answer to the problems in Saskatchewan - including poverty, homelessness, unemployment, social issues, health, criminal activity. The Wall government has the wrong priorities.
I have had some great shopping experiences in privately owned liquor stores in Alberta, Manitoba and the United States. It would be great to have access to more product at better prices here in Saskatchewan!
Alcohol should be available in grocery stores. The government needs to stop treating us like children and focus on its real work.
I believe privatization will allow specialty importing of various liquors creating diversification for multicultural establishments as well as individual consumption.
Close all stores but the ones in larger centres (Saskatoon, Regina, Lloyd, Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Swift Current, etc.) the small ones can be fully privatized
Any service offered by any organization, public or private, must be customer centric. The current liquor sales model does not address that. The union's purpose, hourly employee's best interest is the only important factor, is dated and no longer tolerated by the public at large. Less government please. PS: Wall Government - Keep up the great work thus far. Keep going!
Our province already has a lot of liquor related problems along with the most domestic violence of all provines. I'M not sure why the present Gov. is incouraging the increase use of alcohol by making it more available . I would encourage you to use a common sense approach .
should be available in grocery stores not in stand alone stores in the parking lot
Having recently moved to Saskatchewan from British Columbia I have been appalled at the extraordinarily high price of craft beer, as well as the minimal selection. If the SLGA cannot offer a decent selection of beer, outside of Budweiser, Coors, and Pilsner, and furthermore, cannot offer what craft beer they do carry at a reasonable price, then I absolutely support the move to further privatization. An increase in private liquor stores increases competition in terms of both pricing and selection. In British

Columbia the government liquor stores offer a reduced selection of craft beer, compared to the private liquor stores offering hundreds of options, but with reduced pricing. By reduced selection, I mean still at least twenty five times what the SLGA currently offers. For a single can of Phillips Amnesiac Double IPA with a volume of 568mL, I pay $6.75 in Saskatchewan, whereas in BC I pay approximately $4.00. With the increased popularity of craft beer within Canada, the SLGA should, for one, increase their selection, and discontinue the practice of removing craft beers that prove popular, and two, decrease their prices in comparison to private liquor stores. If the SLGA were to prove cheaper to acquire a limited number of craft beers than a private liquor store I would choose to shop at both the SLGA and private liquor stores; however, based on the current pricing scheme, I look forward to the expansion of Willow Park and the opening of Sobey's Liquor, which will become my predominant sources of craft beer, as well as liquor in general, as I can depend on selection, pricing, and the staff to have at least an adequate knowledge of craft beer, a quality that the SLGA is lacking.

I am excited that the Government of Saskatchewan has decided to examine the options for liquor retailing moving into the future. For my own part, my priorities are as follows:

Eliminating the requirement for private retailers to purchase product through SLGA. In doing so, I expect a wider variety of products and better selection at my private liquor stores.

Allowing the sale of beer and wine in grocery and convenience stores. We already allow salespersons in grocery and convenience stores to sell controlled products such as tobacco and lottery tickets. If the concerns about the ills derived from the greater availablity of these products or the potential for underage persons to acquire them are not significant to prohibit their sale in grocery and convenience stores, so it should be with beer and wine.

Allowing pubs and restaurants to fill growlers (1.89 litre reusable containers). I see no reason to restrict the sale of draft beer in reusable containers to the people who produce it. Growlers are convenient, cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and allow consumers to enjoy a wider variety of products in their own homes. Beer Bros. Gastropub in Regina provides an excellent example of an establishment that could provide a quality filling service, with access to numerous options seldom seen in stores.

Thanks for your time and taking the opportunity to seek out public feedback on this matter.

I'm relatively indifferent to the issue of maintaining public liquor stores. I do see a need to shift future retail outlets to the private sector. Perhaps offering the opportunity for SLGA employees or businesses to buy-out existing SLGA retail stores is a reasonable option.

If public stores are to remain, the retail and regulatory roles of SLGA need to be severed. It is completely unreasonable for a private business owner to compete *directly* with their regulator (e.g. Bell, Telus & Rogers aren't regulated by SaskTel...that makes no sense & would stifle my entrepreneurial interest in the market).

Liquor Retailing could be converted to a CIC Crown Corp: better public accountability, and doesn't report to Minister resp for SLGA. SLGA Regulatory responsibilities could remain as-is.

I would also note that a Sask-First policy at SLGA stores would go a long way to improving liquor retailing, and the economic development of the province. We've just seen a brewery open in the Premier's hometown... and where are they retailing their product first? Alberta! Why? Because AB's process is straightforward & streamlined. Approvals took days, not weeks. Provinces with strong local beer, wine & distilling industries (BC, ON, QC) have a formal "local-first" policy at their public liquor stores - they don't leave this up to local managers' discretion.

SLGA staff provides a better experience than privately grocery store suppliers I have experienced in other provinces. SLGA could use more new products on a regular basis as I see this as the only advantage privatization would have.

Please move to an Alberta model and privatise all stores. I want better selection and pricing.

It's difficult not to contradict myself in the survey - yes it's important for gov't to fund education, health, transportation, etc., but I also said it's important to spend money on liquor retailing. I don't wish for more private stores to be built, but I'd like for liquor to be sold in more locations, like existing grocery stores. The most important part for me is a wider selection of products, like special imported beer or the promotion of locally produced products (ex. Bushwakker beer sold in stores in Regina).

I don't think private stores are necessarily the answer, if that's part of the debate here, but it would be helpful to pick up some beer and wine at Superstore or Sobeys with the rest of my groceries.

We lose lots of liquor sales to Alberta. I for one stop in at one or two locations when I am in Edmonton 3 to 6 times per year. The main reason is price and selection. Prices at Costco in Sherwood Park are remarkably lower than stores in Saskatchewan. Also I live in a community where the coop sells liquor. There is nothing bad about that! So why can't I go to any grocery store in Saskatoon and buy a bottle of wine? Our restrictions make no sense! In Quebec liquor is sold in grocery stores, what do studies show ? Are citizens of Quebec at greater risk of harm?

Don't let the unions side-track the right decision by fear-mongering. The provincial government should be spending money on health care, education and infrastructure, not on liquor stores. Private businesses have been retailing liquor for years and should be allowed to build and operate liquor stores.

I think it is more important to keep good paying jobs that provide good benefits and pension than provide cheap alcohol

At the current pace, it is clear this government is setting up its stores to fail. Stores are understaffed, product selection is mediocre, and price point is poor compared to Alberta. I recently watched helplessly as some patrons stole from a govt store at will, only later to find out the store staff was running short. Shameful.

Go to a system like Alberta has.

Less regulation and more privatization. Government should not be in the retail business. Laissez-faire.

Fully privatized can be a bit of a slippery slope, however, having lived in many provinces I find the increased availability of liquor through stores like Sobey's or Co-op provides greater selection (of both local and national products) and increased accessibility to those without vehicles or limited mobility. I would prefer more of these options than fully privatized.

I agree that more needs to be done with roads and health care, these are vital to Saskatchewan, and its peoples, If I may say so, going to the many liquor stores in this province, I have to say , I see a lot of staff and not that many customes as in the majority of times other than peak times! I'm sure they are well paid, and they seem to always be not so happy, this puzzles me, as I used to work in a gov't facility not related to alcohol sales, and I found the same thing, highly paid people who are always unhappy about things, and honestly not overly helpful, I find that sad! I always felt I was there to do the best job I could for the people I served, just an opinion!!! thank you!!

I would strongly support the availability of liquor in grocery stores!

Where to start...

The over-taxation and pitiful variety of liquor in Saskatchewan is something that I vehemently hate.

When I travel to Arizona, Florida and Alberta I am constantly reminded that our liquor prices are GROSSLY inflated and for logical reasons that are fallacious. Our supply of craft beer is among the worst in North America. Right now I do 70% of my liquor purchasing out of province because of two reasons:

1 - the selection of craft beer, high quality spirits and wine are VASTLY superior in Alberta (as well as almost every US state)

2 - I can buy the same 6-pack of craft beer in Alberta for 12$ vs paying 18-20$ here in Saskatchewan. If I go to Arizona or Florida that price drops to 7-10$.

3 - When it comes to beer the liquor store layout and distribution of liquor, the laws GREATLY favor three main companies above ALL others - Anheuser-Busch, Miller and Molson/Coors. Craft beer companies, microbreweries and small start-ups face HUGE problems when it comes to distribution and sale of their alcohol. These companies are the ones I want to support, therefore I will go where they get a fairer chance of market competition.

The over-taxation of alcohol in Saskatchewan needs to come to an end. We are not living in Circa 1920's Russia, our liquor laws should not reflect such grossly over-controlled socialist values.

Just go to Arizona and copy-paste the system they use as well as the taxation algorithms for the liquor. If there are areas of the government that oppose this, please provide the statistical evidence showing how the way Arizona runs their liquor policies, distribution and pricing negatively affect social systems, underage drinking and alcohol abuse.

It is time to catch up to the rest of North America, we are not living in the 1930's anymore.

Consumers should be able to import a reasonable amount of product for personal use direct from manufacturer both within Canada and from abroad. There needs to be interprovincial free trade. I prefer the expanded government retail system, but would like to see SLGA spun off as a crown and run as if a private industry, fully owned by the taxpayer, an investment in a thriving buisiness.

I think there is a place for both public and private stores.

Alberta has top notch private liquor outlets. Why can't we?

Get the privatization process started as soon as possible.

I'm honestly confused as to why we need more liquor stores. There seem to be a sufficient amount in any given area, especially once you factor-in licensed off-sale vendors. Privatization is not the way to go with everything and I'm very disappointed in this government for thinking that it wold fix the problem. I see nothing wrong with having boutique liquor stores, but every subdivision or area does not need multiple stores within a ten minutes radius.

I think an expanded mixed model serves the best interest of the people. Since there is no going back from a full-privatization, it is best to move slowly this change. There is not alot of evidence from other Canadian jursidictions for us to use in the situation. Mostly just Alberta, so it is best to move slowly, and calculate efficiencies along the way.

Couple other thoughts:

It is impossible for government revenue to remain the same (or increase) by adding another competitor into the marketplace without an increase in the price to the consumer. Private liquor stores will not result in a lower price.

Lower prices will simply not occur in this market. If I own a private liquor store, I know that consumers have historically paid a set price. Why would I want to charge less to the consumer when I already know what they are willing to pay?

By allowing additional competitors into the market who require a portion of the overall market profit, there is less profit remaining for the original member (government).

If the government is simply looking for an additional revenue stream it should consider selling its sales data to subscribers for a fee. Much the same as how convenience store companies sell sales data from cigarettes to other cigarette companies. Private sector companies will pay big money for access to the competitors sales. As it stands right now, the government is in a really good position to offer this data.

Fundamentally, I have no issue with Government-run liquor stores, as long as they are putting money into the Province's coffers and are not costing us money. Having shopped at both of the private stores in Saskatoon, however, there really is no competition on the basis of consumer experience - the selection, quality and pricing at the privately run stores FAR exceeds that of any Government-run store I have visited. Purely for the improved shopping experience I will continue to go out of my way to visit private stores every time.

Getting rid of government owned liquor stores would reduce costs for all, as the unions in this province are way too abundant.

Though I understand we live in a society based on a former socialist regime(now with a Conservative facade), I find it disturbing that access to products and goods is restricted and controlled by the government. Government control such as this is a facist/Neomarxist ideal. In a Democratic, free society, I should be free to choose where and what products I wish to obtain and consume. Shy of internet browsing, under current laws I am denied access to products from overseas such as certain scotch brands or czech vodkas. Having said that, currently I have potential to purchase said products only through the SLGA though only after they review and potentially approve the product-charge a fee-and-then determine the quantity to which I may purchase. There is nothing free and democratic about our current system. Under the current rules we are confined. I wish I could purchase goods and make decisions to import direct to my home. A great percentage of ditrubutors and buisness' have restricted shipping to Canada and Saskatchewan because they understand the restrictions and control that has been placed on us (and them) to bring items in. Not just alcohol but electronics, clothing, building products, etc. I do understand the economics and financial risks to our system as a whole to allow for freedom of imports but there must be a happy median from where we currently stand.

Current society has outlived the stronghold prov model and requires a perfect competition marketplace for consumers. Everyone has a friend or family member that regualy picks-up less expensive alchol from out of the Sask prov, I myself regualary travel south of the boarder and always am over my spirt limit and also purchase enough from the neigbouring prov of Alberta to last until my next trip there.

The biggest hurdle to keep the marketplace competitive is to remove the price enforcement model on the pvt establishments. Increase the liquor taxes rather than a min and max range for the consumer price model.

Increased selection will cater to a growing trend towards craft and specialty beer, wine, and spirits.

Growing up near the Alberta border and having spent some time there, the vastly superior selection was a simply a joy.

it's about time this was privatized. The alberta model works somewhat, but i believe that other countries - US, EU, Mexico have it right. take the stigma away from alcohol. the taxes generated will still keep money flowing to the provincial coffers (and taxes should be reduced please). Get rid of old lazy unionized employees who are stocking shelves and running a till. that's crazy. let grocery stores and gas stations sell liquor.

take a trip to spain, france, puerto vallarta. get bread, cheese, and a nice bottle of 4$ wine for your night of visiting with friends. now transplant this to Sask!

This survey has an agenda. It was very, very poorly written if neutrality was the goal. I strongly suspect Sask Party interference in the question formation. It is guiding people to dismiss public liquor stores and that is .

"Increasing the ability for the government to reinvest in other priorities (i.e. health care, roads, education, etc.)"

We PROFIT from these stores. This question implies they are a distraction. You invest in LBS, make profit, spend that on roads etc. Just... this was a disappointing experience. My voice feels unheard because I know it's written to trick people into making certain selections that actively work against their actual beliefs. Just a waste of time the way it's currently written. For shame.

I am not a big drinker but I think the government should concentrate on improving the infrastructure and healthcare and get out of regulating my moral issues...privatization will bring population and competition to our province...this helps with more taxpayers and hopefully less for me to pay...I believe I am responsible for my own choices and don't need the government to spend/waste money on telling me that it is bad to smoke-drink n swear...sorry unions-you've had it good for long enough, time to let an ambitious person make a living here.

Opening more private liquor stores will increase the availability of alcohol to Sask residents and this is exactly what we DO NOT NEED there are to many social problems from alcohol already. Plus more private stores opens the likelyhood that minors will gain access to alcohol another thing that we do not need more teen related alcohol deaths.
the government should continue to run the profitable liquor stores but put the rest in private hands. Remove the price fixing as well as we are all adults and should be able to control out purchases. I spend quite a bit of time in Phoenix and it was nice to be able to purchase a 12 pack at the grocery store.
I think the system should be fully privatized with only some regulation. We are very backwards when it comes to liquor retailing compared to the rest of the world. I would like to see regular grocery stores and convenience stores have liquor with regulations / enforcement preventing sales to minors.
The selection is finally improving with the introduction of private stores! Previously, I would purchase most of my higher-end and unavailable products in Alberta, which deprives the government of sask of profits as it is. Now, with the co-op store in Saskatoon, I can finally purchase products locally that I would drive hours to get before. Having a bigger selection and letting the market determine the freedom of some retailers to carry special-interest liquors (larger beer, scotch, wine, gin/bourbon selection) for niche markets without having to list and carry it at all SLGA outlets is a vast improvement. At the very least, make it easier to obtain products not currently available in this province! But so far, private stores are amazing!
I live close to Alberta and have been in the private owned liquor stores in Alberta. I find the price is escalated once they closed all of the Government outlets. I agree that one may come across a bargain sale that they are trying to clear out because of lack of sales of that particular brand sometimes but overall the cost is more. As I stated in the survey, we have many tourists come through Maple Creek each summer and the majority stop or will come back in from the resorts to buy liquor as it is cheaper here than Alberta.
Increase the availability of product. I shouldn't have to travel to another province to get a certain type of alcohol.
get rid of all govt run stores....they are a waste of time and money.
The government needs to stay out of peoples lives. That includes all choices they make, including how they spend their money. Currently, we are forced to pay a premium for alcohol that we get no direct value for. Government should not set the price for alcohol, the producers should.
It my strong opinion too keep liquor store owned and operated by the Government…But I strongly feel that the Government should have comparable prices too other Provinces for Example Alberta as there does not need too be such high taxes on Alcohol. I strongly feel that if the Government decides too make Liquor store private it will take away from Government Jobs, So with my opinions I strongly feel the liquor stores can stay they way it is and change the ways its sells too customers at a lower price…and or something done…don't get me wrong on saying anyone that abuses the system should be taxed higher.
I already have concerns about the impact on a community or neighbourhood that high access to liquor or liquor stores has. An increase in addicts hanging around, domestic abuse fueled by alcohol in the parking lot, and people who are struggling with an addiction continuing to feed it. There are many populations in our province which struggle with multi-generational alcoholism. Access to intervention and treatment is not easy to come by. I'd rather see public money go towards that from liquor sales rather than opening it up to private enterprise who are only profit driven and not concerned with the consequences of their products. I'm also concerned with money from sales going to out-of-province business owners instead of being re-invested in our province.
Saskatchewan needs more International beer selection.
As a significant user of the liquor retailing system I really like the situation we have here. It's unique and seems to work well for the general good. I truly enjoy living in a place that's a little quirky. It seems to me the reasons for change in the liquor retailing system are entirely ideologically motivated, which is the worst reason ever. I would like to add, if changes are made, I do not want to see this government continue to pick 'winners and losers'. Thank you for this opportunity to take part in this survey.
Why are you guys wasting my tax dollars on useless studies like this when it earns revenues for the province. Do politicians earn us money... no, can we privatize them? How about we stop trying to be alberta and stick to what works and expand the crown corps.
Costco liquor store if we allow any more liquor stores not owned by the government.
I've been in Saskatoon 25 years, in East College Park. In recent years I've been very frustrated by the location and accessibility of my closest Liquor store at 3120 on 8th Street. For example, if I want to buy a bottle of wine for dinner, it's at least a 10 minute drive, one way, on the now very busy 8th Street. Many times it's a long wait and tricky access to the store parking lot. Then

there is the crazy, tight, limited parking. So, the idea of retail grocery stores carrying wine & beer sounds very, very inviting. However, sadly, the two such stores that have opened in Saskatoon (Sobeys & Co-op) are in newer areas and not anywhere near me. So, the frustration continues. In places like California or Alberta, it's so handy to buy a bottle of wine in a grocery store while I'm buying the rest of my groceries .... and it seems like there so many such stores in or close to each neighborhood.
I believe our government should stick to its role of enacting legislation and regulation as per the will and/or best interests of the public. Please leave retail business to the private sector where it belongs.
Privatizing existing government-owned stores is preferable to the current situation, but I would like to see all brands of liquor being available in corner stores or supermarkets or where ever the market dictates.
I would love to see beer and wine sales in grocery stores. I also like the way Alberta handles its liquor sales.
We should not have to pay twice the price for a tenth of the selection of craft beer in this province. the variety of beer available at government run stores is an absolute disgrace
I think there is room for both Government run stores and privately owned locations. I think providing more flexibility in the market with privately run options is a good thing as well.
It's time to reduce the excessive taxes on alcoholic beverages and let the market decide what is the right price. As well let the market decide how many stores are needed and wanted in a given area
Saskatchewan's variety of liquor availability is disappointing, but when I visited a full-line private store (Willow Park in Regina), I did not find their selection to be any better than a government-owned liquor store. I think that a fully private system will actually reduce the selection and variety, as lots of small liquor stores will pop up that will only offer a small sampling of their most popular products. The government could do a lot for craft brewers and distillers if they loosened their rules about what can and cannot be on the list to be sold in Saskatchewan.
I strongly prefer improving existing government services rather than privatization
Buying liquor for an event, such as a wedding, through government run liquor stores is very difficult. The staff is unwilling to provide the requested amount of product for fear of "restocking shelves." This, to me, showes a level of lazyness. In alberta, private liquor stores were more than happy to provide whatever was requested as they were making a sale.
Allowing better access to a wider range of products is my main investment in this survey, tired of traveling to AB to give someone else my money to acquire what I want. Thanks for taking the time to read. M.
This govt. promised to leave crown corporations along. Play with them and there will be dire consequences come election time.
I think it's about time that we as sask's had privet liquor stores keep the gov. Stores but let the new ones be privet run Privet is always good compation is good it's bin a long time coming let it happen
Manage transition to fully private retail.
My main concern with liquor sales in Saskatchewan is the lack of product selection and cold storage for beer. Private stores do better on both fronts than the other options. However, product selection is still lacking compared with both our neighbours. Some of this is likely due to to the fact that our largest cities are relatively small and our overall population is small as well. I also believe that some of this issue can be blamed on the "red tape" a distributor has to deal with to do business in Saskatchewan. I don't believe that privatization alone is the solution. I think that we need to overhaul the entire distribution regime in Saskatchewan to be competitive.
I feel quite strongly that SLGA should not act as a monopoly or sole provider of alcoholic beverages within Sask. in both the wholesale and retail businesses. Though tax revenue dollars are at stake, I don't believe these revenues should solely come from the pockets of those who purchase alcohol. It should be a more shared responsibility among the residents of Saskatchewan. I support the movement to a fully private system especially in the wholesale area, relinquishing governmental control on the supply of alcohol & spirits.
Get the government out of the liquor business. Fix the dang roads.
I strongly disagree with having a minimum price on alcohol under the pretense of preventing harmful social issues. Increasing the cost of alcohol doesn't work as a deterrent in most cases where alcoholism and alcohol abuse is involved. In most cases, I believe it just adds financial stress to the problem, which can lead to further problems. Taxing people's addictions as a form of government revenue is poor public policy.
Also need to review regulations for micobrewers and wineries to ensure the regulatory framework does not hinder growth. Increasing the number of private liquor stores should be a priority.
I like private liquour stores, however, I don't want to see one on every block like in Alberta. The private stores we have in Saskatchewan now are clean and classy. Some of those private stores in Alberta are sketchy and seedy. As a rural person, if

Saskatchewan went to full privatization I beleive we would likely lose our liquour store so I don't want to see that. I like the mix of public and private. The government should not be building new liqour stores. Use that money for roads, schools and healthcare.
Gov should also get out of distribution and warehousing liquor
I'm very supportive of providing more choices for liquor selection, and my experience with the new sobeys and co-op liquor stores have been excellent. I now choose to shop at these new private stores over the existing government owned stores.
I am tired of driving to the US, or Alberta to purchase alcohol. It is half the cost as it is here. Get rid of the "sin tax".
retailing SHOULD NOT BE in a separate building than the main store
While this is not an easy topic, changes can improve the consumers options in a safe and responsible manner. There are two parts to consider for changes: 1. retail which should be done and is under review. 2. Wholesale - which also should be done - the Government can maintain a role in Wholesale and taxes; however, private stores should be able to have expanded product lines including rare specialties not predetermined by SLGA.
Prices are not competitive. I am a Scotch enthusiast. I can buy a bottle of lagavulin 16 in saskatchewan for 140 dollars, where that same bottle in alberta is just 80. Cost of the bottle is probably closer to 60-70 dollars. SGLA is the only crown corporation which does nothing to improve the quality of life for residents of this province, instead it punishes them.
As a someone that has worked in senior management in the beverage alcohol industry in Saskatchewan and Ontario, I can tell you that SLGA historically has been poorly run. It is time to turn the page, privatize the industry and allow capitalism to work. Private liquor chains have the expertise to provide the public with what they want. Government does not belong in the retail industry. The Alberta model has served their residents (& western SK residents) well. The AB government still collects LCT and private firms compete for business. Taxpayers should not be burdened with the overhead and legacy costs associated with a retail chain that is poorly managed with low customer satisfaction and high cost unionized employees. PRIVATIZE SLGA. ***Saskatchewan taxpayers demand and deserve more for their tax dollar from health care and highways-which should also see some form of privatization before labour, the NDP and Tommy Douglas's outdated and antiquated ideologies continue to hold Saskatchewan back from realizing our true potential.
Social concerns can always be addressed by legislation or regulations relating to the sale to Intoxicated persons. The simple fact is that by forcing a minimum price as a "social concern" tax is forcing the more marginalized members of our province to resort to far more dangerous activities or sources ie - grocery store products containing alcohol. Or hard drugs - in many cases far cheaper than alcohol in Saskatchewan. Perhaps more restrictions should be put on, or a social concern tax be put on those products as well - ie floor cleaners, mouthwash, certain after shaves.
I believe liquor sales should be wide open as in the U.S. It is just a commodity product like any other. Leave the age restriction on sales, I don't believe being more convenient in sales will contribute to any more abuse then what is there already. I believe it is not up to government to dictate sales of any legal product. It is a proven fact that a competitive open retail market is better for the consumer, in regards to price, selection as well as service
I do not think that the government liquor stores could not be improved any more than what the private can offer. The cost of public safety is more important to think about than accomodating people with convenience or pricing...priorities are essential
If we are making money from liquor stores why would we stop that? Why not put the profits back in to health care. I don't get when you say should we spend our money on health care and roads. When we are not losing money in the liquor stores. Maybe instead of worrying about this insignificant issue but it is not even a issue. You should figure out our health care system and make that better. Raise taxes if you have to because it is . I can't believe you are focused in on liquor stores. Can you say stupid. In my opinion.
The current system works. We need to look at other jurisdictions that have gone from government based stores to private; like Alberta, and see how that has negatively impacted overall government revenue. Without a comprehensive plan to maintain revenues to maintain and improve current government services this is a non-starter. We will lose revenue, and that will impact us all in the delivery of services.
I would like to see private liqour stores province wide and the micro-distillery industry be given access to that market with no mark up and direct sales to retailers.
I think SLGA does an excellent job in all of their endeavors. However they seem to focus a bit to much on social responsibility at the expense of convenience and customer service. Though they have made good strides in the last few years to modernize a bit. I fully support private industry taking and extended roll in retailing operations (especially if it finally gives us cold beer rooms), though I feel the revenue provided by SLGA is an important part of making our province great!

If liquor sales were privatized in Sask, the govt would receive MORE money for Healthcare, highways and education! Much of the money is wasted on inflated SLGA workers' salaries and rent for the million-$ facilities. SLGA workers do the same job as Wal-Mart employees. Why are they paid twice as much? This is very unfair. Privatize away Mr Wall!
I live in Regina and have frequented Willow Park since moving here. They don't have a large beer selection but what they do have is better than the government run stores. I also recently went to the Sobey's liquor store in Saskatoon and was blown away. It almost reminded me of being in Alberta. I wouldn't be opposed to government run stores if they would stock more things worth buying. Although it has gotten a lot better in the last few years, it still isn't great.
The major problem is the inability for specialized sellers to open stores where specialized products can be found. While the offer of alcool is reasonable in private and public stores, there isn't a sufficient offer of microbreweries and other beer products. Quebec offers the possibility for certain commerce to specialize and offer beer products normally unavailable in large groceries store or government-owned alcool stores. Whatever change happens to the alcool network, I believe availability of diverse products is the focus.
Private liquor sales in Saskatchewan must happen.
I think the retailing should be kept at the same status quo as now. Keep the existing liquor stores as they are and if new ones need to be built, either the province and/or private sector can operate them.
Selection is incredibly important to me. The craft beer market in Saskatchewan, particularly in Saskatoon, was godawful until the Co-op opened up. I have nothing conceptually against gov't owned locations, but there's rarely any selection, they are often poorly stored and overexposed to heat and light, and sometimes nearly impossible to find (case in point: shopping yesterday at Saskatoon's 2nd ave location for Schadenfreude and Phillips Crooked Tooth took me nearly 30 minutes to locate both of them). I have also heard of numerous horror stories in the facebook Beer Lovers of Saskatoon group where people have tried to order through the special orders desk, only to have the items take nearly a year to complete, if they even receive them at all. If you want to maintain a strong government hand then you NEED to fix this and address efficiencies in this sector. I strongly support the Expanded Private Retail System model.
I have exclusively shopped at the co-op liquor store in blairmore since they have opened. the prices are competitive and that's a key factor for myself. the selection is also something I enjoy there along with the large amount of chilled products. I have told everybody that asks to avoid going to the government owned stores solely for the fact that they have stayed so closed minded about this topic instead of trying to stay competitive with surrounding provinces.
Please, please, please, pretty-please just privatize the government-owned liquor stores and let the marketplace determine the best way for people to buy and sell liquor. It's embarrassing to live in a province that still clings to these backwards remnants of socialism. Also, please allow for beer and wine to be sold in grocery stores. That way when I do my grocery shopping I can buy all of my groceries in one trip without having to make a second trip to a store that sells liquor.
Private stores are the only way alcohol should be sold. Tax revenue can still be part of the result. Lower operating costs make sense. Should be a balanced approach.
I believe that the government does not need to operate liquor stores itself. Private sector involvement works, and Saskatchewan is behind by not allowing more private involvement in liquor sales. As well, there are larger and more important projects that the energy and funds of our government could be better spent on (i.e. roads and highways).
The government should concentrate its efforts on liquor regulation and addiction avoidance, not retailing. Government activity in direct retailing is in some sense a conflict-of-interest with its regulatory mandate. A hybrid of an expanded number of private stores and grocery kiosks in most urban areas, licensed stores in retail areas, and public stores in areas otherwise not well served, is probably the best model for Saskatchewan.
Just do it ! Be progressive! Alberta is killing it!
The one option that is not explored in this survey is the so called special order desk. The way it is currently operated is a joke. Please, please , please look at how this facility is operated in Alberta to make web based purchasing available and make the SLGA Special order desk operate the same way. If someone would like to have more detail, call me at My name is .
We don't need to follow Alberta on everything.
Do not privitize SLGA, crime will go up, stealing of product will go up, loss of government, hard working jobs, etc.
grocery stores!
Private liquor stores encourage new small business development and economic growth.

Prices in Sask are way too and the gov is losing revenue to Alberta and Montana. Not just liquor revenue but retail revenue overall. The liquor savings in Alberta are greater than the cost of fuel to drive there to buy. Gov should oversee the sale of liquor but should not be spending taxpayer dollars to run retail sales. ie building costs and wages
Just make it private please. Alcohol sales (or any business) isn't the job of government.
I would like to see lower prices, more convenient options (wine/beer in grocery stores would be great) and a selection of beer and spirits that's more in line with the current expansive selection of wine found in most liquor stores. If abolishing government liquor stores helps to achieve these outcomes, then so be it.
Get out of the retail business, the rules of supply and demand will dictate the numbers and volume, just as they do for every other retail market. Liquor is no different. More opportunities for small busness owners, in small communities.
No
As a consumer, my top priorities are convenience and selection. I strongly support a plan that would see at least beer and wine available in groceries stores, a model that I have seen work in Quebec and a number of US states. I would also strongly support a model that would see a wider selection available to consumers. One issue not directly addressed in the survey that would be important to visit is the amount of alcohol a person is able to import in excess of the exemption. Saskatchewan currently has a very low amount (9.1L) in comparison to other jurisdictions. This is a small amount for a private citizen who wishes to bring back a selection of products that simply aren't available in Saskatchewan.
I feel that our liquor stores are making money,so the question of prority in spending is irrelevant!!
I think Option #2 (Expanded Private Retail System) is a good way to continue moving forward to the eventual Option #3 basically through attrition.
My main concern is that alcohol can be cheaper in the province then it currently is. Similar to Alberta pricing and model. I'm not concerned with generation of profit for the government as the sole reason for keeping prices the way they currently are.
Being the Highest province with drunk drivers on the road. Privatization to companies that only care about the bottom line who are likely to make the sale and care less about underage is the wrong way to go. Not to mention the loss of revenue actually giving us less back to invest in the province for fixing highways and helping budgets of hospitals.
Privatize liquor please as soon as possible! I really hope people do this survey because everyone I talk to wants private liquor stores and looks at alberta with jealousy! Then let's start on sasktel. Would be so nice to have a legitimate choice whether it's in media choices for cell phones/services and liquor! The new saskatchewan is a better saskatchewan!!
Having moved here 6 years ago from Alberta, I have to say the price of alcohol is ridiculous. Incredibly it costs more to drink here yet Saskatchewan is the leader in drunk driving in the COUNTRY. Explain that one folks... I believe the privatization of alcohol sales will NOT increase public harm, but rather create more growth and enterprise in an already booming economy. Time to get with the program Saskatchewan!
I feel that the minimum drinking age should not be lowered. I believe the government run stores are best regulated and provide the most reasonable pricing. I believe that the number of retail liquor establishments in an area should be regulated.
The main issue with liquor retailing in this province is that the SLGA does not know what the consumer wants and doesn't know the product. Bringing in 10 different brands of the same beer style does not constitute 'selection'. Whomever is retailing the product needs to let the customer decide what they want and keep up with current trends.
Liquor retail is the number one revenue generator for the province of Saskatchewan. It makes no sense to throw away the money this province desperately needs.
There is no need for government to be in the liquor retail business. Government should focus on core responsibilities.
First and foremost, having a regulator also be a monopolist is a massive conflict of interest. Every other state in the developed world has a more liberalized system for distributing alcohol. Somehow, other states seem to get along just fine with private liquor sales. The notion that the government needs to be involved in liquor retail is a farce. We need only to look to our neighbours to the west for a better model for Saskatchewan. Alberta has: lower prices, higher selection, and more conveniently located liquor stores. Let's move into the 21st century. Let the government take a hands-off approach to liquor regulation. Let private industry handle distribution and retail.

Please move to the Alberta model. If the government believes in private sector development...start with liquor stores. The market will provide the needed controls.
Public retailing serves no public purpose which could not be achieved through taxation and regulation.
On behalf of the Ales & Lager Enthusiasts of Saskatchewan, we would like to be consulted further in the completion of this review. Please contact The views expressed in this survey are my own and not necessarily reflective of the club.
-
Have no problem with grocery stores selling alcohol, if they want. The USA's model works, why not here.
Main concerns are BETTER SELECTION, MORE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS. Competitive nature will allow for pricing.
Base selection of beer, wine, etc in GROCERY stores would be ideal with more specialized products in the private stand-alone stores.
Pls make this happen asap.
As this government privatizes Liquor stores and gives more money to business they will have less money to spend on education, health, infrastructure, etc. Everything else will be privatized before this government is done and the ordinary will not be able to afford health care, education, etc.
Allow the sale of beer and wine in convenience stores ...
My primary concern is that there are a lot of people currently working in government run liquor stores. In most cases, these are great paying jobs plus benefits, etc. Privately run stores will end up paying minimum wage to less employees. This will definitely impact all people currently employed with SLGA stores, in particular small towns. I don't believe there is any way to ensure good paying jobs, job creation if everything is privatized. On the other hand, I don't strongly feel that the government should be in charge of running these stores; however, this is a hard thing to change now. It's unfair to take good paying jobs away from Saskatchewan residents.
Thanks,
Take the privatization of liquor even further than the Alberta model.
All levels of government should remove themselves from the regulation, supply, sale, and price control of alcohol. This includes getting out of being the only entity that can import alcohol and being the only source through which private liquor stores can purchase their supply (as is the case in Alberta).
The idea that government should save people from themselves (regulate the sale of things, particularly what society deems 'sinful things' like alcohol and tobacco) is an outdated and, frankly, patronizing and belittling idea that does nothing to solve societal issues. If you take candy away from a child, you have not actually taught the child why eating too much candy is bad. . If you make alcohol so expensive/inaccessible that a person cannot purchase it, you have not taught them why overconsumption is harmful to both themselves and those around them. You've merely tried to remove the symptom, not the cause.
Allow individuals to make their own life choices, including beneficial and harmful choices. Get government out of liquor entirely.
While I can appreciate the revenue that government stores generate, I am of a firm believe that the their are higher priorities for our elected members to focus on. Add to that that the private stores are run much better than government stores in regards, to cleanliness, quality of products and price.
Current stores are too far apart and require driving out of your way.
Staff are nothing more than product scanners and baggers.
Customer service is non existing.
Saskatoon and Regina both need grocery stores in their cores. Allowing downtown grocery stores to sell beer, wine, and spirits might be helpful in making those grocery stores viable. I think that existing grocers (e.g. Italian Star Deli and SALT in Regina) and new grocers should be a priority for the government when selecting private operators.
I am a proud member of the NDP Party of Saskatchewan. I fully support the Sask Party in their bid to privatize the Liquor stores in this Province. Retail Liquor sales belong in the hands of private enterprise, not in the hands of Government!
For me it's all about selection and availability. I can't stand the fact that current public stores don't stock more local and Canadian beer (read: Craft Beer). They have gotten marginally better (read: forced to at least attempt to compete) but are still overall poor. Lack of refrigeration for beer that clearly should be treated as a perishable product (read: all beer that is unpasteurized as a choice to maintain flavour) is also a point of contention. Look at any cooler in an LB, its stocked with corona

or other macro brews that pay for the advertising, not beer that actually needs to be refrigerated. Dealing with the special order desk is also a huge farce. 6 months to get a response, essentially saying we didn't feel like importing great beer from BC/Alberta etc let alone Belgium, Germany, America, or the UK is unacceptable when the same beer is available in both Manitoba and Alberta. I welcome more private stores that do as great a job as the Co-op has in the last year (haven't made it out to Sobey's yet so I have no opinion).
Alberta's system seems to be working just fine. Why not follow in their foot steps? I'm pretty sure that jobs would be created and gov pensions would go down for liquor store employees.
More private liquor stores - but fully private, with the ability to purchase whatever liquor they want by not having to go through the SLGA. It opens up a whole realm of possibilities as to what we as consumers can get and experience.
No
This archaic idea that government ought to be involved in the sale or manufacturing of alcohol sure is strange.
Get rid of government run liquor stores, the money could be used in other areas.
I strongly agree with the concept of privatized liquor sales. I don't see any reason or need for the Government to be involved in the direct sale of alcohol to the public, there is no purpose for this. The SLGA should be a regulatory body only. I also strongly support the idea of liquor sales in non-traditional locations such as grocery stores or gas stations.
I believe the government markup on liquor is outrageous.....money would be better spent on education and enforcement of current laws vis.a.vis drunk driving and public drunkeness
Please privatize them all-its time the government got out of the liquor business
Speaking as someone who has recently moved here from Manitoba, it is RIDICULOUS that your liquor stores don't stock bitters. How is that even possible? C'mon, Saskatchewan, get it together.
54% government markup on alcohol is incredibly high- I believe one of the highest in the country. I think that addressing this would go a lot further towards lowering the cost of liquor- personally my biggest concern with how liquor is sold in this province. either than that I agree with opening some more privatized stores but not at the cost of closing existing LB stores. I haven't seen enough justification in the information provided to support that.
Alberta has done it with private liquor stores for years and seem to be doing just fine. We shouldn't have to drive there to buy our alcohol due to a cheaper price or more selection. Private is the way to go!
When detailing the idea of changing to a private liquor retailer, ensure to show the public how much profit was brought in by the current system and where the money went. For me to save $50 a year on alcohol vs having to increase my taxes due to less revenue is not that important.
In favour of Expanded Private Retail outlets
Strongly support a change to a fully private system for the sale of alcohol. Not asked in the survey, but I would strongly oppose government liquor store employees getting first option to purchase existing stores. This should be a fully open sale with no preference to employees.
Privatize liquor sales. This is a free society, start making it look like one.
There is nothing to indicate that the current public liquor stores are inefficient or losing money. The revenues that are earned support the building of roads, hospitals, and social services; it's important to share the risks of going to a private system with the public and the potential for increased taxes in order to fund those foundational community pieces. The issue of public liquor stores is a red herring; we need to focus on building a better province that has a sustainable future tax base. Our growth should be planned, sustained and something that we can count on...this issue is a kneejerk response to a non-existent problem.
I dont believe the province should focus on the revenues but on the net income. If we decrease the control of sales but maintain control of distribution while maintaining the level of income received currently then we free up resources by operating in a more private sector.
Please just get the hell out of the way of private, free enterprise. This isn't the 1920s anymore. How long is it going to take for the government to finally figure that out?
$252 Million in profits how does the government plane to make that from the private sector?
It works very well in Alberta. Get out of the biz and let people who want to do it look after it.
I don't believe that the government should be in the business of retailing liquor. Having lived in both Saskatchewan and Alberta, I

greatly prefer the Alberta model and would implore the government to move toward such a system.
As long as you are able to maintain the same or receive more revenue from privatization I do not have a problem with the change. Where is the loss of revenue to come from if privatization goes forward? The taxpayer of course. A blended public/private ownership in the liquor industry would be my choice ensuring through whatever means that the revenues are not lost to the government. As a note it is sad that the government is intent on trying to make liquor more easily accessible by private stores and increased hours which leads to social problems and loss of lives through drunk driving.
I hate that I buy the majority of my liquor in Alta, solely because of the pricing. I support lower alcohol pricing and privatization in Sk.
We do not need any more private liquor stores. What they have already done is only the thin edge of the wedge.
No need for private liquor stores, quit working on things like this that are working, rather focus on the REAL issues, poverty,healthcare, roads, debt etc
My experiences at the privately owned retail liquor stores have far exceeded my past experiences at government owned liquor stores. Within the current system, people can get liquor nearly whenever they want. Why not let all retailers decide if they want to sell liquor?
I think this province needs to get with the times and privatize liquor sales. Unions are a thing of the past and we need to move away from that.
I am a non drinker, but I am not against others drinking alcohol in moderation. I believe we could consider small Liquor Marts in grocery stores operated by SGLA as done in Manitoba I strongly believe we should retain Gov't Liquor stores/outlets not expand to more private operators , our tax revenue is very, very important to me. I am a widow who lives on a fixed income. Allowing big companies to sell alcohol as a private business will not benefit Sask. people. and this move will cause negative effects in order to please people who want convenience. I also believe SLGA employees will be more vigilant in determining if customers are legally entitled to make the purchases such as under age kids, intoxicated people . Our alcohol treatment programs are not fulfilling the role they should. Many cutbacks have eroded their value. I favour more public stores and more treatment programs and direct tax benefits through the Crown Corp. SLGA for our residents
Government owned liquor stores should continue as they have in SK for many many years. I believe the decision to privatize liquor stores is the initiative of the current Government to continue on its agenda of Privatizing all Government owned crowns and I believe this initiative is completely wrong and should not even be up for debate.
I think the product knowledge is becoming more of an issue for all liquor retailers and should be beefed up considering there are more discerning consumers. I think that offering rotating sale items that have a deeper discount than $1.00 would be a draw for customers to the government run establishments. I am concerned that if you open up the market to more private retailers you will get a glut of retailers who run shabby establishments of which we have seen many in Alberta and B. C. Let Saskatchewan retain a certain amount of class. As for grocery stores, I am torn as to whether to open up more liquor outlets as I want the revenue generation for our government to continue for the benefit of all residents when it comes to core services such as education and health. There is still a promotion in the health industry for small amounts of alcohol and maybe it is time to take a closer look at that and then offer more services for those who have a lack of control on the other side of the scale.
Keep public, the profits can fund a lot of healthcare and education needs, etc.
I am 36 years old and have lived in 3 provinces. SK has the most restrictive alcohol policies I have encountered. The Alberta model is much more consumer friendly in terms of retail cost and selection.
Premium products (e.g., scotch, wine, etc.) need to have an increased sselection. I also feel that unique Canadian products should be emphasized and marketed more - not just for the Canadian economy but as a value add for tourists. Ideally, we would lead the country with the number of 'Made in Canada' products available. I also think that SK should promote the development of it's own liquor production sector. From a social responsibility point of view - I feel that regulation does very little. The answer is education. If a partnership with the health regions and Ministry of Health is possible I would support it. I feel that social resoponsibility messaging should focus less on 'responsible use' and more on education about identifying (or self identifying) addiction problems and promoting resources to handle those issues. Accepted medical information about the health risks of alcohol use should be more widely available. I support private stores wholeheartedly - but I am not necessarily unsupportive of a hybrid public/private market place like in many provinces. The model used in Quebec was something I liked quite a bit when I lived there - premium products from the government stores & mass produced products from private corner stores, grocery, etc.
I live in saskatchewan, NOT Alberta. If we privatize liquor stores what's next? Health Care? That's not the Saskatchewan way. We used to be a good community province, but now that we are moving more and more like Alberta, it's sad. I am becoming

ashamed to be from here, and looking to move on if we become Saskaberta.
I found this survey very biased towards private liquor stores. If you are going to ask for our opinions there should not be so many loaded questions. A few of the questions felt like i could not give an answer that was appropriate to my views.
I've lived in Alberta and travel there regularly; having private retailers broadens the options one has and you don't have to wonder where you can run to get a bottle of wine for your hosts when visiting a new place, etc. I'm all for private liquor stores, bring it on!
I'd love to see more deregulation across the board, if you can compete at natural (not inflated) prices with unions and service then stay in business, if not its time to move out of the market. We get ripped off and have limited options, its time to change that backwards Saskatchewan approach to crown corps.
I think alcohol should have warning labels on the bottles like cigarettes do. Preventive messages warnings about drinking while pregnant and regarding addictions. Sask should fund better treatment centres also that are longer in duration up to 3mos or longer and treating the entire family as a unit. Very taxing on our healthcare system also.
Option two sounds the best. Expanded Private. I really want to see better selection of liquor in Saskatchewan. I don't want to have to make a trip to Alberta just to get something special. I also want to be able to do it whenever I want. I'm not saying we need a Las Vegas kind of approach to the sale of alcohol here. But, I sure would like to see SLGA being open the same hours as the private stores. I enjoy how clean the private stores are, but, I would appreciate being able to travel less and get the same experience at an SLGA. I feel the best employees are always the SLGA ones. I've always had positive experiences with customer service at an SLGA location. I also think that we should allow "Adult Entertainment" in Saskatchewan along with Alcohol. Oh, that's not what this is about? Oh well, I've already typed it.
I don't think I quite understand the true economic impacts of privatizing liquor stores. There are some ideas in my head that might assume that it'll bring the same amount of NET income to the government however the gross income to the government will definitely decline. As for the jobs I'm also unsure whether these will just be displaced or whether they are true loss of employment. As for selections and pricing, these are the areas where I think privitazation will greatly improve.
If it's not broken don't fix it...make it better.
The government should absolutely increase opportunities for private stores, price competitiveness and greater selection
If you want allow more people to seel liquor but do not sell exisiting stores. More stores does not mean the price will go down.
The implementation of new liquor stores should ensure that the level of social harm is not increased through saturation of liquor stores in specific areas.
An absolute NO to liquor store privatization in Saskatchewan.
The Free-er the market the free-er the people. More stores, open longer, selling for cheaper. Both expanding the Private Retail and Expanding Government run stores into existing grocery stores seem like things that would benefit the government and the taxpayers/voter.
Alberta approach is significantly flawed
People should be given the right to choose where they shop. Our current legislation is the equivalent of someone telling me I can only shop at Walmart for household items even though Superstore is offering the same item at a lower price or possibly a brand I prefer that only they carry. Time to move into 2015 with some forward thinking.
I would love costco liquor store! I have been to them in Alberta and the US and would love if Saskatchewan would have one.
I'd like to see growlers avaliable for sale not only at breweries but bars as well. It's frustrating seeing all the other western provinces going ahead with this while we are left in the stone age. Growlers are environmentally beneficial as well as convenient.
The prices of Liquor in Saskatchewan is ridicules. Look at the prices in AB and you will see. the "private stores" we have now still have to purchase through the Government and therefore we will not see cheaper prices anyway. we need to move to a more Alberta style system and get the Government out of this business.
Sask minimum pricing is too high Leave existing government liquor stores as they are.

I don't think government should be in the business of alcohol. Enforce age restrictions, and collect tax. That is all.
To me, I think it is ridiculous that liquour is mostly sold in Government facilities where entry level or low skilled employees earn double minimum wage. I think that if the government sold liquor through retailers (like Costco, Safeway, Co-op for instance) and let those retailers determine their own price, the government could probably raise liquor consumption taxes slightly and generate more revenue to pay for social programs, health care, etc. If the government wasn't paying ridiculously high wages and high overhead costs for each liquor store, the taxes collected by the retailers would probably be equivalent. That's just my opinion though. I think there are enough people who stock up on liquor while in Alberta that if our prices were more reasonable, there would be no need to stock up and sales would increase, thereby increasing tax revenue.
My suggestion would be to fully privatize the liquor stores without government interference in the business.
Paying taxes on alcohol has never been an issue for myself personally, I do however have some fundamental ideological issues with the idea of the government having a large degree of control over what I am personally able to purchase and consume within my own residence and prior to the new private establishments, this has always been the case.
Lived in both Alberta and BC and moved to SK this year. Saskatchewan liquor availability and pricing are exceedingly poor. I am not a drunk or binge drinker (I like to drink 1 beer, a nice craft beer, with supper) but feel put upon due to the difficulty of obtaining said beer when I live out on the farm and work during the week. The prices are also offensive. I actually am planning to start brewing my own beer again to have beer at hand and avoid this gratuitous "sin tax". Government should get out of the liquor business and leave it to the private sector. I also don't appreciate how we can't have a beer on the beach or while ice fishing. Let's move on from Prohibition like the rest of the world. Arrest drunks but don't harass those who enjoy a harmless beer.
sell all existing public stores, offer the current employees first option to buy them. private liquor stores will NOT affect public safety, that is pure union propeganda. In fact, private stores will probably be more dilligent as they are accountable...government union employees are not. the government should maintain the role of wholesaler, but stay out of the retail end of it. let private business and market demand dictate pricing, location and available products.
Prices are ridiculous. Brewhouse made in Saskatoon in SIGNIFICANTLY cheaper in Alberta - and they have to ship it there. Price is my biggest concern.
Public liquor stores should offer all cold beer, coolers, and white wine. They should offer bar accessories. They should offer products that our customers want; bring it in as a test product.
Because I live rurally, it would be nice to walk to the local grocery store and pick up a nice bottle of wine and not have to drive 30km to the only option....a government owned liquor store. These small communities are still dying in our provinces economic boom. Give the small businesses an opportunity to expand.
We have too many liquor providers already. We have one of the highest rates of drinking and driving in the country. Get rid of some of the liquor stores, make more laws about its use. Make it harder for people to be stupid with alcohol. I am also concerned about the level of crime and violence in smaller establishments should alchohol as well as cigarettes and cash be readily available for the taking.
The system is working but it would be great if we had the added benefit of being able purchase wine and beer from grocery stores. That would be great!
Private liquor stores and great and we should have more espcially to bring down the cost of alcohol in our province.
Stop privatizing our province! Stop destroying our public sector jobs. There is nothing wrong with our current provincial liquour stores. You are doing nothing but tying their hands up so they cannot compete against your private agenda. Shape up Wall government, I am sick of you supporting only the 1% you .
I need the healthcare so the money must continue coming from the liquor revenue.
My biggest wish was for widespread refrigeration of beer in government run liquor stores along with lowering taxes on liquor products.
It make no sense to sell off a profitable business and then have to spend more public dollars policing the people it is sold too. Government should focus its efforts on more important matters than playing with the current system.
You are closed on holidays, too early on Sunday, No access to home made beer or wine, IE ; worts available at grocery stores. can't buy 1 beer out of any 6 pack; forced to buy all 6. Local beer should be cheaper than National brands. Operating costs/ need for revenue to pay expensive employees.

Allow liquor to be sold at grocery stores or at least have a wine and beer kiosk in the grocery store.
- I believe liquor sales should be fully privatized. - I believe liquor should be available in existing businesses such as grocery stores, gas stations and convenience stores since these can already sell cigarettes which requires the retailer to check for ID. - I believe the market should dictate how many stores/retailers can sell alcohol within a certain area
I think the government should leave things the way they are. There is always a comparison in this to Alberta.... Why can't Saskatchewan stand strong independently and be it's own province? If I wanted to live in Alberta I would move there.
More revenue should be placed in making rehab facilities available to those who choose. Even funding assistance to those who choose out of Province rehab facilities.
I STRONGLY DISAGREE with privatization of our liquor stores. It seems that the Sask Party gov't trying, again, to fix something that is not broken. Why would we get rid of an ongoing revenue source again? Yes there would be an immediate, and large, influx of dollars into the gov't coffers, but what about the ongoing revenue the province gets now? That is money being reinvested into the province in roads, health, education, everywhere that public dollars are used a certain percentage is directly from the liquor store revenue. My experience in neighboring provinces private owned liquor stores has been less than wonderful. I have found them to be located in areas that clearly have much higher priority needs than liquor stores. They generally are quite seedy and have less than knowledgeable staff. I think that we should leave well enough alone and be proud of having clean, well run stores with knowledgeable staff and we should enjoy the much needed revenue generated for use to build and maintain our province, not just one person's bank account!
The priority needs to be on providing greater choice in all aspects.
How about real strip clubs not these pretend ones. Let the market decide if there is an appetite for it. What is this, ? The poor guy in Regina trying to get a club going is likely going to go in 6 months (no pun intended) Give him a chance by allowing him to run a real strip joint.
Don't make it cheaper or easier to purchase. Alcohol is already a major problem in saskatchewan. Sell off stores/locations if you see fit, but don't allow more stores per capita. Thanks.
Because of the SLGA's tight control on what can be ordered from distelleries/breweries I am not able to get certain spirits or beer. If they are available for order it takes a long time for them to arrive.
Privatization is not the answer and does not make things better.
The liquor retail system in Saskatchewan is outdated and ineffective. The store hours of SLGA stores are unrealistic and the selection is horrible compared to any other province. The city of Lloydminster can be used as a case study for this - the Alberta stores have competition and thus have sales, selection, and good store hours, while the SLGA store on the Saskatchewan side gets a miniscule amount of business and their prices are higher.
I have been in Alberta many many times, and the selection of wine is incredible compared to Saskatachewan, and the price point is so much less.
Alberta's system seems to work well. I am also a fan of laws surrounding wine production in BC. Companies can do most of the work for a person looking to bottle and produce their own wines.
I think it's a great idea to increase the availability of private liquor stores. I like the idea of Alberta where they have separate stores from grocery stores.
Maintain the government run liquor stores and allow grocery stores to sell wine and beer.
We do not need low paying private liquor stores, the kind with tip jars at the cash register to supplement the low wages paid to their empoyees. The current system is profitable and pays living wages to SLGA employees while contributing money to the government coffers. Premier Wall has already stated: "not one more public dollar will go into liquor stores". Why have this survey when a decision has already been made? The liquor store debate is not important to the citizens, things are fine as they are. This is an attempt at privatization through manipulation. We see this manipulation on with the other crowns, SGI, SaskPower, Saskenergy, SaskTel are being stripped of their profits forcing them to raise rates and lower services offered. If the SK Party can make the crowns distasteful, privatization of said crowns will face less resistance and backlash from the citizens who own these crowns. This is a thinly veiled attempt to

privatize SLGA and other crowns while allowing the citizens to feel that they have had input.
I think there are many more important issues to deal with than privatization of liquor stores. ie. healthcare and education. also not wasting $45M on smart meters would have been even smarter than not spending money on liquor stores.
Privatize! Let the Government's energy be in more important places.
The government has more important things to do than govern cashiers and stock boys. And a minimum price is irrelevant when it comes to people who want to get drink. It isn't the government's job to try to control my morals. Get out of alcohol and open it to the public.
1 placing taxes on sales is the way to control the minimum price 2 setting up an Alberta-style warehouse system will allow small producers to get market access. 3 I would support an Alberta-style deregulation but with government stores in competition. 4 It would be useful to see data on Alberta to see what social programs may be required if SK deregulates. Eg. if you allow more gambling then you need more support for gambling problems.
I think it is way beyond time for the government to step out of liquor retailing. Having lived in Alberta for 12 years, I think privatization is a much better plan. But regulation is needed so you don't have a whole bunch of stores in one area, like the pawn shops.
Would be nice to have greater product selection and cheaper pricing instead of driving to Minot.
I would like to see the goverment continue with there liquor stores rather than go privately. I see big problems if the whole province goes private. I believe this will cause huge inflation and the people that think the private stores will drive price down are wrong. All it will do is drive prices up. I like being able to go to any location and pay the same price for the same product. Whether its a $1000.00 bottle of Scotch or a mickey of rum. I really like that the excess profit helps fund other areas to make our province better.
The monopoly of government controlled liquor stores makes life difficult for bars and restaurants. Most of which are hard working, local independent small businesses. Private enterprises with competitive pricing and a wider and also more specialized product selection benefits everyone. Decreasing almost all overhead while still collecting LCT is a win for the government as well. Privatizing liquor stores is a win for everyone.
I would like to see a wider selection of wine and beer. The selection currently available in Saskatchewan is very limited compared to other provinces/states. I would also like to be able to buy wine or beer at the grocery store when I'm picking up items for supper. Like in Quebec it would be nice to be have the convenience of picking up beer and wine at the neighbourhood convenience store. I don't really care if the above is provided via public or private stores. The private sector isn't perfect - I've shopped at Willow Park in Regina and the experience hasn't always been good. I've experienced varying degrees of service, product knowledge and selection there.
Too many hoops to jump through to get a certain product on the shelf as it stands now. Hopefully regulating board softens this process. Wages are way out of hand for a cashier/shelf stocker in LBS.
I think it is very important for the government to maintain it's current level of involvement. The revenue generated from the current government stores is crucial in the maintenance of our Health care, roads and schools. I for one do not want to see our taxes increase because the sale of our government stores. It is also important that we keep our economy strong with good paying jobs in this province, and maintain all that our past unions fought for. I see this government stripping away years of progress and I strongly disagree!!Thanks for asking.
Please keep in mind the amount of money that leaves the province when we stock up on booze in Alberta. We could keep that money here if our prices were in line with theirs.
In privatizing liquor sales you are removing a steady folow of income to the province. The accessablilty of liquor increases the likely hood of alcohol related abuse and dependancy. In privatizing the sale of alcohol you are removing good jobs. Jobs that people take pride in and that people can raise familys with. this is essentially helping to lower the bar with respect to wages and benefits which helps no one in the end.
The public system is just fine. I think enough people die due to liquor. We don't need to increase the availability until we have educated our population to drink responsibly. The revenue is good to pay for other improvements to our province and good jobs

for our people. If I wanted things to be like Alberta I would have moved there. I like Saskatchewan and that we do things our way. That we still care about each other and our quality of life
The province should consider selling existing liquor store to private enterprise. The cost of unionized labour and bricks and morter adds to the cost to operate that private business can run better.
This is clearly an area that belongs to the private sector. Government should get out of liquor retailing altogether, including the warehousing function. Government should only collect tax on liquor and enforce regulations concerning the consumption of liquor by minors, impaired driving, licensing of establishments, etc. Taxes should be raised on liquor to keep liquor prices neutral on account of a more efficient private sector distribution system. Any retail establishment should be able to get a license to sell liquor as a consumer product, much like toilet paper. SLGA's conflict-of interest in both selling liquor and regulating it is completely unacceptable and makes Saskatchewan look like a sort of banana republic.
Please move to a Alberta like system.
Thee only thing that NEEDS to CHANGE is the current government.
With the boom in craft beer and unique wines on the market, the current selection in Saskatchewan, especially with respect to craft beer, is completely abysmal and unacceptable when our neighbours to the west enjoy such an expansive product lineup. I feel my consumer choice is severely hindered due to the tight restrictions of the SLGA on what our current retail stores carry for product. Private stores are working well in Alberta and have for some time. Please set us free!!!
We should have the same or better pricing as Alberta does instead of being taxed to death on everything. The Government should divest from this non-sense. If people want to drink alcohol, you aren't going to prevent them from doing so regardless of price. If prices are less, at least the poor alcohol dependant people or younger 19+ people will have extra money leftover to spend on tuition, food, clothing, shelter, etc. Stop trying to be big brother with everything.
The revenues generated from liquor sales need to be maintained, but can come from other means than retail sales. Not sure price is truly a deterrent to alcohol issues. It just forces a person with an alcohol problems to other means such as shoplifting, other forms of alcohol that are even more dangerous such as Lysol. At the same time if the retail prices were to come down a bit I wouldn't object to a higher tax on alcohol sales
Why would the province want to eliminate even more middle class jobs like those held by current SLGA employees and replace them with minimum wage jobs by privatizing liquor stores? To whose benefit would this serve? Also, why has there been zero discussion on how the liquor stores would be privatized? How would a private company purchase a liquor store that is currently public? Would there be auctions, sealed bids, or would this be done by some sort of backroom deal where a "preferred" private company would be handed the store? This seems like the most critical issue with privatization in my mind. No discussion of this aspect of the privatization really makes me wonder about the real motivation behind all this.
Please update Saskatchewan's outdated liquor laws so I do not feel the need to flout existing regulations by going to Alberta for access to greater variety / reasonably priced alcohol. Thank you.
We pay way TOO MUCH for alcohol in this product. Time for a change.
I believe that we are on the right track in terms of private liquor stores. The market has been tested and it is obvious from Co-Op's success that there is money to be made for private liquor stores and also it shows us just how expendable the current Government standard is. I would like to see the Government continue to regulate the sale of alcohol, but reduce their involvement in the actual cash transaction. I think there are a lot of other areas that Government employees are needed. We have seen through Co-Op and Sobeys that placing the sale of alcohol into the private sectors hands is a very viable option and one that should be further explored moving forward.
If the public thinks that they are going to save alot more money w/ private liquor stores, they are wrong. Crime rates will go up w/ easier access like more hours of operation, etc. Checking of proper ID will not continue as well as it does in private stores than in goverment stores. Keep the liquor stores public and out of the corporate pockets!
Our liquor retailing should mirror Alberta's.
The SLGA stores are so dated and product availability is terrible in terms of beer offerings. My most glaring gripes about the SLGA stores are: - Minimal refrigeration of alcohol - Terrible beer choices - Outrageous prices

- Employees that are only there to collect a paycheck. Never there to help. Never about the consumer.

- Too many hoops to jump through for new suppliers to start selling in Saskatchewan. For example, Steam Whistle has been brewed in Toronto for many many years, yet only within the past couple months has it started to be carried in SGLA's.

I understand the idea of social responsibility, but let's get Saskatchewan out of the dark ages. I'm fed up with the government telling me I'm not a responsible consumer of alcohol by making me pay the higher price. Painting a whole province with the same brush is ridiculous.

I was happy to see the changes a couple years back which led to the private store coming into the province. Mr. Wall has done a great thing and I support his initiative for privatizing liquor sales in Saskatchewan.

Granted the craft beer choices has b

Government need to get smaller. There is no reason that some government union worker should get twice the wage that a person working down the street doing essentially the same job. I have never been greeted with anything but arrogance and laziness at the SLGA stores I have been in. Hats off to Brad Wall and his forward thinking Sask party. You have had my vote and will continue to get my support. Lets bring Saskatchewan into the new millennium and leave Tommy Douglas and his CCF in the past where they belong.

I don't want to see what has happened in Alberta happen here. It's not always cheaper there than it is here. I also don't believe we shpuld be opening up low paying positions to sell alcohol. It's a crappy job (I've done it) where you work terrible hours and have to deal with drunk people.There's nothing wrong with paying workers.

Revenue from government owned liquor stores should not be lost. It should be used to invest in infrastructure and health care.

the government likes the idea of being private and having the individuals owning the store have all expenses but they sure don't want to give the owners any of the money from the sales-its too bad selling alcohol in Saskatchewan is a no-profit business for the ones actually doing the work and any money made is given to the government to be a show-off in doing road construction etc. If the government is saving all these thousands of dollars to do extra stuff they should maybe look at given the ones selling there product a decent cut of that money being made

Please allow sale of alcohol in grocery stores.... this is LONG overdue!

I strongly feel that SLGA should only exist to collect the liquor taxes and controlled a minimum amount of liquor laws. There is no need whatsoever for the government to run store or even warehousing or distribution. Let a private company or companies run the distribution and warehousing. Also SLGA should get out of the gaming and stick only to liquor and then start a Saskatchewan gaming association with no connection to liquor

Gov't should get out of alcohol sales & should not regulate where & when I can buy alcohol. Let the market dictate the number of stores. As an adult, I should be able to buy a bottle of wine on Sunday if I want to. I also need to take responsibility for my own actions. It is not up to the government to decide what is in my best interest.

Allow retailers to stock what they want and to set their own prices similar to Alberta operations.

Too much is made of the ideology surrounding the private vs public debate. Just do what makes the most sense for consumers and our society and leave ideology out of it!

This is not a top of mind issue for most people anyway, and do citizens actually believe that our current approach to liquor retailing is a needless drain on govt resources that could be better used elsewhere? Really? Liquor retailing is compromising our schools, hospitals and roads? Hardly. I would think that eliminating govt debt would certainly be a much bigger issue than this, yet no one discusses that at all!

I think a mixed retailing model is the best - and typically Saskatchewan - way to go. Yes, bring in more private stores to enhance competition and niche selection. Yes, support existing govt stores (but don't build new ones). And don't get out of liquor retailing. I think it is a societal responsibility that the govt cannot simply concede to the private sector. The fact of the matter is that we know how liquor impacts our health and society, and since the private sector is not exactly known for having those priorities close to its heart, the govt has to provide "sober" oversight.

We should operate on the same principles that Alberta operates in and the government should not be involved in liquor sales.

Thanks.

liquor needs to be more affordable to the everyday joe who would like to purchase alcohol for themselves... why punish the ones that don't need to. Becoming a private run liquor store, would greatly bring competitive prices... I'm all for private stores.

would really like to have a Costco product line available

Keep liquor stores government operated.

Privatizing the sale of alcohol allows easier access for minors and the need for more enforcement efforts. Keeping access and

run by the government allows for better control.
It seems to me that the current government wants to reap the benefits of government controlled liquor stores without having the expense. Although that may sound very attractive to the government, I don't think the employees in the government stores would agree. They have become accustomed to the standard of living that their employment affords and as such would have less disposable income. This would have a negative effect on the retail industry and as consumers who pay taxes that would impact our local government bodies. I realize that you may have to make some changes in the way we operate our stores but privatization is not the way to go. Maintain the status quo or perhaps allow the gov't kiosks in grocery stores similar to Manitoba's model.
Whenever I visit a different country I am greatly satisfied by the selection and price I see. Saskatchewan has a long way to go and we need to get rid of these archaic laws. Also, there isn't a single store in Saskatchewan which offers Soju... which is the highest selling alcohol in the world
I think the govt needs to seriously consider limiting alcohol venues to the point of banning them...since this is the same thing they do to marijuana (much less harmful on a social level). SK meets avg targets for heavy drinking and Canada as a nation drinks more than many countries. Is this is a stat we are proud of? If not, what exactly is this govt doing to change this? I figure if we treat a drug (alcohol) at the same level we treat a lesser drug (marijuana) then we should be fine. But we don't and we allow excessive drinking that is causing a multitude of societal problems. Worth a serious review.
I think that regulation for alcohol should primarily be focused at the point of sale (similar to tobacco products or prescription drugs). In my responses to the survey, I have indicated a strong desire to move toward a private-operated model of liquor sales, but I also think the concept of having a centralized, government-overseen distribution system needs to change. Liquor vendors should be free to obtain their own supply through their own means and not be dependent on SLGA to serve this function.
I fully support the Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System, as well as eliminating the minimum price restrictions on liquor. Since liquor is not considered to be a staple, I don't believe that the government should play a role in regulating prices at all. Let the market decide the price of a commodity like liquor.
Being able to get into the retail market would be a huge opportunity for any entrepreneur to get involved. The ability to sell liquor at competitive prices; not only within the province but competitive with other provinces; will not only help reduce the cost of liquor prices in the province but will help retain many residents who often "stock up" and purchase large quantities of alcohol in neighboring provinces before returning to Saskatchewan. Privatizing this service industry would allow retailers to more effectively hire dedicated staff who are willing to become knowledgeable in the products they are selling and can more effectively convey product information to the end consumer.
I find it hard to swallow that we are paying high union wages for a clerks job.
I think the system needs to be regulated but entirely private. The government is losing money in the current system by having to pay workers union wages, which, while not a bad thing, is money that could be better spent on something like the health care system.
I have been to Alberta countless times and find their system to be far superior to ours in both availability, experience and cost. Please change the way it is now
Keep Saskatchewan government jobs! Don't privatize all crowns!!
L
the less government involvement in all businesses, the better
Saskatchewan should move to immediately privatize all government owned liquor stores. Beer should be sold in grocery stores, and Saskatchewan should allow Alberta-style private liquor stores in the province.
Go to an Alberta style system where there are a few specialty stores with selections of highly premium products and a lot of smaller liquor stores with selection that meet 90% of the populations needs and have hours that meet demand. There is no need for the government to be in the retail business, manage the wholesale and let the private sector do what it does best.
All private vendors should be allowed to sell all products, wine hard liquor and beer should be available in all locations. My concern would be private vendors would only be allowed wine and hard liquor and hotels would control pricing on off sale beer sales.
I lived in Alberta when they privatized liquor sales. Better price, better selection, better hours and better service. Way to go

Alberta!
Keep them government owned. Keep good paying jobs. Crown owned business needs to increase not decrease so that everyone can benefit from profits and not just a rich investor from out of province
Do what Alberta does.
Competitive pricing to what the US has for liquor prices.. more variety. Selling in grocery stores would be awesome!
Has worked for many years ,if not broke why fix it
Please go to the Alberta model for liquor sales. The selection and prices here in Sask are terrible, but at least selection is better now that I can visit Sobeys or Coop Liquor. Get rid of the off-sale stores that charge ridiculous prices and have no selection and have to "brew" their own beer that nobody buys because it's horrible. Move Saskatchewan forward and don't worry about the people complaining about the proposed changes, they'll enjoy things once they're better.
Stop setting minimum pricing on alcohol. The people who abuse alcohol are going to do it no matter what the cost is. People who only drink casually shouldn't need to be affected with having to pay more money because a small portion of people will make bad decisions and harm themselves by drinking too much. Places with lower alcohol pricing don't have more incidents of alcohol poisoning just because they have lower pricing.
The government shouldn't be in the business of selling Alcohol at all. That said, the current SGLA stores are of reasonable quality. Price and hours of operation are huge for me though. Having visited the USA on several occasions recently, it's convenient to pickup a bottle of wine to go with the nights meal plan. It's also convenient to pick up product after 5PM on a Sunday.
I would like to see a much LARGER selection of CRAFT BEER!
The gov could run the current stores better. For example: more craft beer selection, having all beer in a walk in fridge, better hours. I think if privatized, good-paying jobs will be lost, private stores will only create more min wage jobs..not good for people of SK!! I also think that if privatized, the gov will lose money for hospitals, highways etc. If private stores can sell booze for less money than the gov stores, the gov stores will be soon out of business = NO INCOME FROM BOOZE FOR HOSPITALS, HIGHWAYS.
Get privatization done asap!
For most people in this age group we are primarily concerned with the selection of products available and the price. We will go wherever for the cheapest price, and the idea of private or publicly owned does not factor in. Hours of operation continue to be a concern as well - as there is clearly a reason off-sales are open till 2 am. I am not concerned with having a high cost for liquor to deter alcoholics or anything else, as I feel there are better ways to go about preventing abuse. Programs could be advertised on bags, and in the store for example. The idea of following suit in the states of having places like grocery stores with the ability to sell alcohol is appealing, as currently the only option is to go to a government owned store for the simple reason it is cheaper. However, sometimes these stores are not conveniently located and the experience can become frustrating when there is only one hub and the store is extremely busy.
Lower drinking age to 18 Keep the stores public but lower the taxes to bring prices in line Not open to privatizing the crowns and this is another attempt at doing so, so stop.
Keep it the way it is STOP PRIVITIZATION
Private liquor stores don't mean better prices. Private stores rely on loss leaders and spending money on advertising as well to get customers in the door. Alberta private stores don't have the same selection as our public stores in SK and private operators don't have the same knowledge of products and they are not concerned with age verification. Moving to private stores means less revenue to government coffers which means less revenue to pay for infrastructure like roads hospitals and other public items.
Alcoholism is a problem in our society. Privatization may lead to more sales to minors or at risk people that are currently denied product through government run facilities. Control of the sale of alcohol is important as it will increase safety and security throughout our communities. Alcohol may be 'cheaper' at a private store, but is it really? What is the true cost of increased alcohol in society - increased traffic accidents, increased health care and education costs of that cheaper alcohol?? Is is worth it?
Will the government not still get there money? By the tax placed on alcohol, and the businesses selling the alcohol will be

paying tax. It is time Saskatchewan made these changes to be more like the rest of the country! Good grief already. Why didn't you ask in your survey, how many people bring cheaper AB liquor back to SK for personal consumption? How much money do you think SK government loses by this well known fact? Also, why is it that the SK liquor board government paid workers are always so miserable? Another reason why I would prefer to support private run liquor stores. As a tax payer and a liquor customer, nothing is more frustrating, than having to support a business where you are not acknowledged, not smiled at and not spoken to when making your purchase. And what is their wage again? And ultimately, who is paying that wage? Why would I want to continue to support paying those high wages only to turn around and not get treated like a customer should? If a private run liquor store employed people like that, they likely won't be in business very long. I look forward to a change and until that time I will continue to support AB private liquor stores when I travel west.
The wording on this question should have been clarified: Increasing the ability for the government to reinvest in other priorities (i.e. health care, roads, education, etc.) How can having private liquor stores increase the ability to reinvest? Unless the gov't ensures that the level of profitability can remain the same or increase then the gov't can't increase the reinvestment. Bad sentence11
Our liquor stores are sad and pathetic compared to Alberta. The pricing and selection are utter bollocks. My SLGA customer experience can only be described as ennui, the sadness so profound that only the French can adequate describe it. You'd think with what I pay at your stores I could get a cold craft beer, but apparently I would be wrong.
Encourage more Saskatchewan craft breweries!
Close the government run stores. Save the money used to run the stores. It would pay to have someone else manage the headache of running these stores and services. The government is still going to make their same amount of money in the taxation of alcohol. Put that money into healthcare, roads, and education.
I find the Public Liq. Store's hours to be problematic. After experiencing 10-10 Sun-Sat from private Sobey's Liquour Store in Saksatoon goes to show that if Public Liq. stores can't be open those same kind of hours, then there is not no need for any more of those types of stores.
I look forward to Saskatchewan taking an opportunity to explore creative solutions in the system of liquor. I hope that the solution will be bold and innovative, making Saskatchewan a leader in Canada. It is important to create a fertile environment for Saskatchewan entrepreneurs to fully realize their potential. They will not only create innovative retailing experiences, but also create value-added industries such as distilleries and breweries. The regulatory environment should foster such investment and innovation and will ultimately help grow the economy and help fund important services for all Saskatchewan people. Please note: the first slide is confusing as it provides no instructions.
We need - more options (for example I attempted to bring in a particular type of scotch and the current Liquor Board had zero interest in helping me. - cheaper prices - I know many people who purchase large amounts of liquor in Alberta and bring it back simply based on price...we are not competitive
Privately operated retail outlets subject to appropriate government regulation and oversight would be a major improvement. The fact that only specialty beer can be purchased cold at SLGA stores is a good example of poor retailing. I very much appreciated the background information document provided on the website. The info was clear and helped to inform my answers to this survey. Well Done.
On the whole, I sense that people don't care one way or another. I don't believe this is a winning issue for the government because few bystanders are concerned. People just want to be able to purchase liquor when convenient, I believe how the market delivers that to people is irrelevant to them.
.
The employees at Sask Liquor stores are over paid, how can their high wage be justified? An employee at a government run liquor store has an easy job of stocking shelves, operating a computer/cash register, unlike a health care worker where a persons life is in danger. Many of the employees are rude and have let their overpaid job go to their head especially staff in small town Sk. where many employees are making a better income than employees at our local hospital or long term care

facilities.
Limiting social problems as a result of alcohol has significantly less to do with the availability of retailers than it does the availability of social programs to combat addictions and mental health issues. The discussion around private liquor retailing should have more to do with customer experience than dealing with alcohol abuse; perhaps the discussion around addictions and related social problems should be focused around what the government does with the very significant amount of tax money derived from liquor and gaming.
end sin taxes, tax booze like everything else stop using false choices, liquor stores aren't built like schools or hospitals "Government Jobs" to whom the is this appealing, call them well paid UNION jobs
What a biased survey. Shame ! I was very disappointed when the Premier announced that the people would be consulted re: privatized liquor stores while he was opening a private liquor store. What a farce!
I totally support government liquor stores. The government has control over an abusive substance when they own the liquor store. We have enough problems with drinking and driving, highest rate of impaired driving in Canada. Rural Saskatchewan does not need another empty building, stop closing our government stores. Three quarters of the govt liquor stores are leased, quit saying you don't want to build any with tax payer dollars you haven't built any in over ten years. If my taxes go up because you need to pay off the Liquor Barn for favors received, I am not going to be happy. Over 70% of liquor store employees are female, quit taking good jobs away from them. I could go on..... I want more government liquor stores but I don't see the box to check for that
I think the question about reinvesting in other government priorities does not allow for an informed response. How much will the province lose by handing over liquor sales to the private sector? How much liquor revenue is currently used for those priorities now? Will the volumetric pricing still be utilized? Has consideration been given to the increase in social harms with the increased availability of alcohol (hours and location)? I do not really think the government should sell alcohol but I believe that the province must get as much money from alcohol sales as they do now and that pricing, including specials and hours of sale must be controlled strictly by the government to attempt to prevent the harm that can result from easy access.
I strongly feel that the Sask government should leave the government run liquor stores as is!! I really wish Brad wall would quit trying to privatize saskatchewan. We are not Alberta!!!
Keep the liquor board stores public! Social responsibility is imperative!
There is a severe lack of options for foreign alcohol, wine especially. I can buy many of my favorites in Alberta that I can't find in Sask, often for a fraction of the price of comparable products. The cost of alcohol also makes cooking with alcohol exhorbitant. A domestic product like Brewhouse, produced in Saskatoon, is fully double the price compared to Alberta retail. Every time I leave the province I stock up on alcohol. No doubt others do the same, ultimately hurting Sask retail.
Do not give public money to private business. Keep the liquor stores government owned and operated and provide a decent living wage and benefits. Increase the wages and benefits for unionized workers. Stop meddling with the Trade Union Act.
I beleve there is no economic reason to change from the current government owned LB stores. I only benefits big business (so far out of province business) not the people of the province of Saskatchewan.
Please keep facts straight. Privatization is not for Saskatchewan residents!
I support Crown Corporations generally; however, the current system with regards to liquor laws (and other aspects of SLGA) is archaic, paternalistic, does not satisfy consumer expectations with regards to price and choice, and it hinders the ability of domestic producers (such as craft breweries) to thrive and expand their businesses. The public can exist alongside the private. Quebec has countless private liquor sales in such places as convenience stores, alongside its numerous Société des alcools du Québec (SAQ) and SAQ Express stores. Price is lower, selection is far superior and the provision of liquor is convenient. I believe revenue loss can be offset by tax ensuring a minimum sale price. Revenue loss to the treasury may be necessary, however, to accomplish the goals of overall price reduction to consumers. I do not believe that greater provision and lower costs of liquor correlate to greater societal harm. If this were true, places with greater access at lower prices would have greater instances of alcoholism and impaired driving. Akin to jurisdictions with greater access to lower priced cigarettes, Saskatchewan pays more, yet has higher instances of use (smoking and alcoholism). What other jurisdictions — such as Alberta and British Colombia have — is not just lower prices and better selection; rather, they have more education and stiffer penalties (in BC anyway with respect to impaired driving) and which has created a social stigma

against drinking and driving, smoking, etc.

Although I support the increased provision of private sales and reduced SGLA regulation generally, another model could be to simply improve SGLA. Ontario's equivalent, LCBO, provides far superior selection, at a lower costs, with somewhat more convenience (when taking into account Wine Stores and The Beer Store). Furthermore, unlike Saskatchewan, it seems that LCBO employees are required to actually know the product they are selling and can provide recommendation. This provide for a better consumer experience.

Finally, while I appreciate that the Government of Saskatchewan is seeking feedback on this issue, I will note that it is likely that the vast majority of respondents will be those (such as me) who dislike the current system. Such surveys are often methodologically flawed as those satisfied with the status quo and prefer to keep it rarely speak out.

PLLEASE PRIVITIZE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I definitely believe that privatization of liquor stores is the way to go. follow Albertas way of being the wholesaler!

Privatizing and allowing privately owned liquor stores isn't going to help anything if the prices and selection in these stores is still tightly controlled by the government. Until I can get fair prices and fair selection at these stores I'll continue to stock up every time I come back from Alberta.

The people in government have no other special rights other than being equal to everyone else in society. therefore the government having any control on any substance that goes into a person's body is it legitimate. I cannot tell my neighbor what to eat therefore the government cannot tell me how much I should pay or what I am restricted on consuming.

Government controlled liquor stores / government controlled commerce is illegitimate because it is forcing the will of the majority on the manority.

I would strongly suggest completely eliminating all government controls ,regulations and employees that are related to the liquor industry or any substance that human beings consume.

The biggest shortfall of the current system is the availability of products from small producers. Craft breweries and small wineries are not given sufficient access to the market because of limitations to the stocking capacity of the distribution warehouses. More emphasis should be put on bringing in the quality product over the large scale products.

I have been impressed however by the increased display spaces for and choice of products produced in Saskatchewan. This is an important role that Government run stores should play. The number of alcohol products being crafted in Saskatchewan has grown tremendously. It is important that we give these producers equal if not more access to the market that the big established players.

I think all government regulation related to liquor sales should be scaled back, opening the doors to better selection and more customer-friendly pricing of products.

There is absolutely no reason that I should be able to buy a beer that is brewed in Saskatoon, cheaper in Alberta than in the city it came from? Remove the government run liquor stores, and you save the cost of overhead, and staffing. Have a competitive tax on liquor as our neighboring provinces, and let the private retails set the price that they want. A little competition never hurt!

wise that some products that are NOT on store shelves like Sloe Gin and you have to get it some other place. It would be nice to have some of these products so you can get it when you need it , thanks

I really believe it should all be privatized. As a consumer all I care about is cost. The less the government jobs there are the better. I would rather save my money for other things. I don't want to pay union wages to anyone. Working at a liquore board store should be a minimum wage job. I think that it's crazy that this hadn't happened yet. This decision would benefit more people. The thought that costs prevent social problems is funny if people. are going to drink they will no matter what it costs. It will actually benefit those people because then they would have more money for other things ie the children. I am hopeful that this will actually happen!

open up distribution for further selection of beer products, every place has the same choices i'd like to see more variation

Revenue loss from govt stores will be replaced by taxes of wholesaling to private stores. Hours and service will be dictated on convenience to the customer not convenience to the employees

I personally would like to see more private participation in the sale of liquor and have the government eventually sell off the current government owned stores. I would additionally like to see liquor sales to be in grocery stores.

I have been to many jurisdictions in the US that sell all types of alcohol in grocery and other private stores and find this to be cost competitive, efficient and very convenient. I would support this type of retailing in Saskatchewan.

Opening some private stores isn't a bad idea. Let someone born and raised in Saskatchewan have a crack at it though instead of big box operators/Alberta based companies. It's very important to me to keep and maintain the current liquor stores you currently operated. Expanding with private stores beyond what we currently have is fine - but keep the current SLGA stores

operating as is.
PRIVATIZE!!
Crime rate, under age drinking, spousal abuse, where will get money for schools, hospitals, roads etc? Will private stores give 250k to the study of fetal alcohol syndrome ? YEARLY? I think Mr Wall should leave it public or does he want unemployment numbers to go up? We don't have enough minimum wage earners now, do you think customer service will be better when the staff to help the customers? There are more cons than pros to privatizing our liquor stores
Save OUR Crown Corporations. Where will the money come from for roads, healthcare etc. Where will the employees find a secure job with unions to protect their rights, from the likes of the Sask Party. Once this Crown Corp. is gone there is no going back!! Quit selling us (Sask.) out!!
Competitive pricing is the biggest factor. Prices in Alberta at wholesale sellers such as Costco are far cheaper than here and would be ideal here.
Stop selling off saskatchewan. Crown lands, agriculture lands to forgein investors, isc. It all looks good now with the extra money but eventually you'll have nothing and the people suffer from these policies. Stop it or get voted out.
I do not support privatizing any of the crown corporations in Sask the profit should go to the province not Sobeys or Co-op or a private business to bleed off the profits away from the province. The loss of good jobs is a blow to the working class of the province. Do not sell off our liquor stores
I fully support the privatization of liquor stores.
I think our public liquor stores should be maintained. Private stores can remain as they are they are an enhancement to our public sector stores.
Life is too short to be drinking cheap/bad alcohol. Liquor should be more encouraged as a part of dining, taste exploration, entertaining experience. Accordingly, there needs to be more boutique stores that offer a wider selection of speciality products (eg craft beers from throughout Canada and the world, craft distilleries, vinyards/ small volume wineries). Individual stores should be able to easily purchase directly from source producers and to import product. This will lead to greater ability to specialize a product line and cater to specific markets. The Coop store in Saskatoon is a step in the right direction -- an improved selection with tastings, pairing events, and sale of related food items (cheeses, sausages etc).
I hate the thought of purely private liquor outlets that pay employees minimum wage. Privatization is a race for the bottom in this province. I also don't think my filling out this survey will make any difference in the government's decision making. You are determined to privatize and will do it come hell or high water. (We aren't as stupid as you seem to think we are Mr Wall.....)
It is high time the government got out of business. The government is there to govern, and set laws, not to run business. It is well know that the government is very inefficient at running anything. Sell off all the liquor stores to private business, and use the funds for building a children's hospital, something that is needed in this province. The staff at our government run liquor store, in our city are very arrogant, and would not make it in private business.
Government should INCREASE the number of stores it operates and cease privatization. Costco, Sobey's and others want their stores here because of profits they can earn, not because they are charities. Sobey's will NOT be paying the bill to build passing lanes on highway 7; and Costco will not be building new health centres for Saskatchewan. In fact profits they earn will be leaving Saskatchewan - maybe even Canada - forever. The argument the Sask Party is using about building highways instead of stores is misguided. $1 million spent on a highway returns nothing to the province. $1 million spent on a new government store returns profits, which in turn builds the highways...more than the original $1 million over time.
Greater choice is always good for consumers. Government should pull away from liquor sales beyond what is already installed an profitable. Greater selection and competition in price is good for everyone.
I have really noticed that the new private stores are offering a much more consumer friendly atmosphere than the SLGA stores which are becoming shopworn. I strongly believe that convenience is important, and the SLGA system has limited availability by limiting store numbers. Most importantly, I very strongly believe that beer and wine should be available at grocery stores - I understand the argument for some control over stocking which would see "kiosks" used, but I don't really see difficulties when I shop south of the border and find the beer and wine aisle located in the middle of the groceries.
The government shouldn't be in the retail liquor business - plain and simple. As an adult, I should be able to purchase alcohol at a grocery store, along with my other purchases. It is time to truly cast aside the legacy of one of the worst policies to ever hit this country - the prohibition of alcohol.

Make alcohol service training mandatory for all employees serving/selling alcohol.
I miss what you could get and the prices in Alberta. We need to catch up to the more progressive provences and not be twenty years behind on everything.
It is my opinion that the government should license the businesses selling alcohol and act as a regulating body, not as a retailer or competitor to private business.
NO to privatization!!!!!
The government should get out of selling liquor. Let non unionized places of business sell liquer.
I would like to see a much greater selection of products, especially in the beer and wine areas. I would also like to see easier access to lesser known products from other parts of the world.
This should be kept as a source of funding for other public programs such as health, but the governmental regulations and supervision should continue so private stores won't charge abusive final prices and also we do not increase our already big problem with alcohol addiction in the province.
I don't think we need more options for private liquor in this province, nor do we need to build more liqour stores. There are more than enough options to purchase alcohol no matter where you live. Use the profits from existing stores to repair the roads and improve education. This is just typical PR where you are trying to frame a non-existent issue in order to further your conservative party privatization goals.
A fully privatized system is going too far and you'd lose my vote if you went that way. As long as the current public stores remain profitable, they should be maintained. However, there's no reason we can't maintain those stores and continue to introduce more private stores. Seems like a win-win to me.
Keep public revenues and better paying public jobs.
This survey is a farce the questioning favours privatization
The stores should have more freedom on what they can order ,whether they are private or public stores.
I think we should maintain the current government run stores and add others as needed before going for more private stores
Government operated liquor establishments need to place a higher priority on proper storage and selection. Also, from my understanding, all unique orders still need to be procured through the SLGA special orders system which is archaic at best. Again, if my understanding is wrong about this please disregard my statement but there needs to be a better way for a business to bring in a product that customers are clamoring for without it being an onerous process.
Don't lose these decent jobs to part time low NO benefit ZERO pension ones, where the money we'd be getting from taxes would go into infrastructure etc instead get funneled into corporations pockets.
I believe we should deregulate and allow liquor purchases in grocery and convenience stores as well as private stand alone stores.
The Government of Sask has to be losing millions in revenue due to cross border shopping in Alberta, I spend about $1500 a year on alcohol and at least $600 of that is spent in Alberta. If you have ever shopped at the PC or Costco LBS you will know that there are large savings to be had on certain products. I don't know many people that don't stop and buy 6 cases of Brewhouse for $11.99 a case in at PC LBS in Alberta.
I see no reason why the government needs to be active in the retailing of liquor. It is not an essential service. I am completely on board with the continuance of a provincial liquor board which all resale establishments must purchase through. That should be the absolute end of government control in the supply chain. Consumers should be able to purchase product wherever retailers determine demand is located - ie, grocery stores, convenience and so on. The current set up is beneficial to the government, government employees, and the hospitality industry. All others are gouged via prices as a result, as their are no other options. Off sale is an antiquated practice which needs to be put to a halt. Let the market decide.
Important to maintain revenue from the crown and to maintain good paying jobs for the Saskatchewan people.
The continued use of SLGA as a regulator and supplier in the Saskatchewan market is key to any changes in liquor laws, in my opinion. While I support more private vendors, including small town grocery stores, the key to price competitiveness and diverse selection will likely hinge on SLGA's purchasing power over the next decade. Pricing should discourage over-consumption but not penalize casual drinkers. Its a fine balance that I feel has tipped too far towards higher prices

I would love to see more private alcohol stores being opened in Saskatchewan but they need to be able to set their own prices. I have no issue with the Government keeping their current stores but they should only be able to stay if they can compete. Alcohol costs WAY too much here. I'm not some 19 year old who drinks to get drunk, but alcohol, when consumed responsibly can be such a beautiful part of culture and that's not something that should be discouraged over the fear that youth and alcoholics will abuse cheap liquor. Perhaps the government stores could charge a premium for their alcohol with revenue from these stores going to programs to help these groups. This way those who have their concerns can still support the higher priced alcohol and those who don't can enjoy more competitive pricing at private stores. Having a glass of good wine with my spouse is something I really enjoy doing. It shouldn't cost an arm and a leg to do this. I personally feel very discouraged when I see the same bottle of wine available in Alberta for substantially less, or even worse, down in the United States. A bottle of wine down in the United States will be approximately half as much as it costs here in Saskatchewan. Alberta is usually in the middle. Saskatchewan prices are utterly outrageous.
It is quite clear through the survey, that the government is targeting rural liquor stores for closure first, even though they are profitable, their numbers substantiate this. In addition to providing decent paying employment, these liquor stores also provide an addtional economic anchor for other retail businesses to exsist in rural Saskatchewan towns. To many questions left unanswered, cost of severance to Sask tax payers if privatization occurs, will private stores request a higher commission other than 16% "after privatization" occurs and what is the financial and social impact of this, are just two that currently come to mind. This "is" Saskatchewan "not" Alberta. Leave liquor retailing and the profits from it, in the hands of Saskatchewan people not private business. Leave it as is.
If private stores are allowed, it should be made available through a sealed competitive system without favoritism to govt supporters.
Compared to the rest of the country, the price of liquor is SK is way too high, especially considering it appears to have no effect on the rates of alcohol abuse OR the condition of our roads.
It is time for Saskatchewan to privatize the sale of liquor. We should be able to purchase our liquor at grocery stores and gas stations, etc. It is ridiculous to stand in long lines at Easter, Christmas, etc. I will avoid purchasing these products if that is the case. However, if you privatize liquor sales, they have to have the ability to purchase what they want from where they want.
The government run liquor stores leave a lot to be desired. Staff are not friendly or knowledgable, the stores are not clean, there are no walk in coolers for cold beer and the wine selection is laughable. At the prices we pay, buying liquor should be a "boutique" type shopping experience. As it is now, it feel more like warehouse shopping.
Get the government out of liquor. SLGA needs to go. Get rid of it. It is a relic from the past that is an absolute joke.
Government operated liquor stores are an antiquated idea from another time. I personally do not see the need to have liquor stores owned and operated by the provincial government.
I do not support the privatization of government liquor stores and feel that the present mix of government owned and private is perfect. The Alberta model is dreadful in my view, with Whyte Avenue having two liquor stores per block on one stretch. Very seedy establishments with high prices and poor selection. The government liquor stores are welcoming and friendly with some great sales and good selection.
Traveling to Alberta a lot, I find the cost and convenience of liquor retailing to be drastically better than in Saskatchewan. Additionally, when it was extremely convenient (in the USA) where you can purchase alcohol and groceries simultaneously. Allowing one trip instead of multiple seems much more efficient. The current liquor retailing in SK makes me feel as though it is outdated and we are behind the times.
SLGA needs to stop controlling the availability of product in the province regardless of who does the retailing. Being unable to obtain a product because SLGA has delisted it or never listed it in the first place is ridiculous. Consumer demand should control availability not some list maintained by SLGA.
We currently have a franchise store in our community that provides great hours of operation and a willingness to accommodate requests for personal preferences.
Although this falls outside the realm of liquor retailing, I would like to see the permitting process for special events (i.e.: Weddings) change to allow home-brewed products (wine, beer, meade, etc) to be served (for free), alongside the sale of commercial products.
Profits from public owned liquor board stores should go right back into our government run establishments; health, schools, infrastructure, etc. Giving it away to a private business person Sask. Residents will lose all that revenue. Keep Sask. Liquor Board Stores Public. Private does not mean cheaper! Work with NDP to make it work efficiently.
Make it easier to special order alcohol that is not typically stocked in Saskatchewan. I should be able to go into any liquor store, private or otherwise, and order, for example, Dominican rum without any red tape or delays. Or i should be allowed to order directly from either another Canadian liquor store that stocks that liquor or directly from the source in Dominican Republic, for

example. Beer in grocery stores and convenience stores would be a welcome move into the 20th (yep, 20th) century compared to other places I've travelled.

There needs to be a full shift of liquor sales and distribution in Saskatchewan. While the laws have been recently pulled back from the days of full on control in the 1950's, more can be done. Allow the market to decide whether a private retailer is able to sustain itself or not. There should be limits to number of stores but a private entrepreneur should be able to open a liquor store in Saskatchewan if he/she so desires.

I live in a town where almost all of the crime here is alcohol related. Do I believe it's the government's fault, of course not. However, the grocery stores in town do not have security cameras. If the co-op, extra foods, IGA, start selling liquor, prices will go up exponentially.

In a small town there's not a lot to do so young people drink as a way to pass the boredom. That's if they can get some one to pull for them. Having temptation right there as they go into a store is just asking for trouble.

I think the government needs to STOP privatizing!

I am happy with the what I have seen so far with the beginnings of privatization here in Sask. I love the new Sobey's store (Stonebridge) what it has to offer (mix,snacks,ice,lottery if you are so inclined). As a microbeer connoisseur I hope its selection and that other private retailers continues to grow (a humidor filled with cigars would be great). In general the employees are very knowledgable and seem happy to be there (In general a lot, not all, of the employess that fill the LBS stores portray an attitdue similar to that of a disgrutal postal worker). I am also a fan of allowing grocery stores sell beer and wine (at the very least) as long as it can be done in a secure manner.

I don't like seeing people lose jobs especially those who have many years of service in with the government owned locations however I don't like the idea of their pension, disability premiums and other benefits being the burden of the tax payer. There are some industries where I feel that this is ok, however liquor sales is not one of them. The same can be said for the money that goes into owning and operating these facilities. I think all of this is best left to the private sector. I like the idea of slowly phasing out these facilties rather than just cutting the cord completely. Perhaps in smaller or rural areas the employees can be offered first dibs in buying the facility or opening one up in the area?

I feel as though government has a role in regulating the industry but that is where it should end. I think there are other areas where funding and attention would be better spent. The minimum price of alcohol should monitored however it certainly does not need to increase as it is too expensive already. People who abuse will find a way to abuse it no matter how expensive it is and if the cost goes up too much then it creates a situation where more people need to rely on theft and crime. For the majority of the population this isn't even a factor. Time and energy would be better spent on awareness and helping those who have issues to begin with as there are quite a few people abusing/stealing painkiller and other meds to solve these same issues.

Now can we do something about breaking up SGI and getting some competiveness, customization and customer service into the insurance industry?

My main concern is selection (mainly craft beer) and a little less about the pricing.

This questionnaire has an ideological agenda and is stacked in favour of privatizing SLGA. It is biased and slanted in that direction.

It's insulting that you think citizens can be led around like a bunch of sheep.

Unionized jobs are important for families and to replace them with low wage, part time jobs with no benefits is something I will never support. Keep our crowns.

Government run liquor stores only job is to sell liquor and they do a far worse job at it than a typical grocery store in the USA whose primary focus isn't liquor.

Private retails are superior in it's service because:

- All beer is kept cold in fridges instead of on pallets at room temp.

- Much larger selection on all types of alcohol.

- More covenient hours of operation.

- One stop shopping. No need to go to a separate store for alcohol.

- Better prices.

Government has no place in retail.

Governement run stores provide good paying jobs, pensions and benefits to their employees and inject extra revenue back to the province while maintaining competitive prices with our neighbouring provinces. If we further privatize, the majority of these stores would not create any good paying jobs. I do not desire to have any better access to alcohol than I currently do.

I work in the private sector for a company that pays good wages and provides excelent benefits, however anyone can see that the jobs created by privatizing liquor sales will not provide good paying jobs to anyone and will only create negligible benefits to the consumer.
It is extremely ridiculous the variation of price points between Sask and AB. Why is it that there can not be more competition for business and the government still maintain a similar if not higher rate of return with going to the retail market.
Reduce the taxes
We should go the way of Alberta and privatize liquor retail in Saskatewan
My only concern is the availability/variety of types of liquor available, particularly high-end Scotch and things like that. The store selection, and special order desk, are completely inadequate. I don't care about price (within reason) and am happy to contribute to government revenue - I just don't want to have to drive to Alberta to buy what I want because it's not available here.
If stores arent making profits or require a bunch of money be put into them for refurbishments they should be turned into franchises or private stores. In the city I would like to see them stay govt run as I find it to be a terrible shopping experience (Alberta) when I have to go to 3 different stores to get the products Im looking for.
Availability similar to Quebec. Grocery stores, etc
I think the high restrictions we have on alcohol in this province are outdated and do not reflect the experiences one can get in other markets. The fear of social ills from availability of alcohol can not be fully controlled by government and is not a responsiblity of the government to control. Education and the normalization of alcohol consumption can go a long way to preventing social harms. Spending money on supporting poverty as opposed to restricting responsible consumers is a better focus for resources.
The privatized system in Alberta provides much better selection and much lower prices. The Government of Saskatchewan should follow Alberta's model. The argument that a Government owned liquor store worker is going to I.D. and "protect our children" more often then a private worker is a complete lie. Gov owned workers just want to protect their ridiculously high wage for their positions as cashiers. Please privatize liquor in Saskatchewan.
The time has come for the Government to get out of the business of running businesses. This is what the private sector is for. The Government's job is to govern and provide services its citizens.
Privatize everything. Go Sask Party!
Keep liquor stores public!
If it is decided to go private, maybe the government should offer incentives n order to be a part of the decision making- eg: Grants to start private stores. (or low interest loans)
Make it like alberta
There is a delusion that private liquor stores provide better selection. This is false, as I well know from visiting private stores in Alberta. Apart from the huge liquor stores run by transnational corporations, most private stores in Alberta are small with limited selection. Price deals are also an illusion. Yes, sometimes there is a better price on one or two items but, in general, Saskatchewan public liquor stores are just as economical. We need to place more value on higher paid public jobs, revenue for the government to do other things, and the need to regulate the sale of alcohol to minor. Do not privatize.
Time for the government to get out of the alcohol business. Less regulation.
It's sad that a lot of people go to Alberta an buy their alcohol, therefor our money is going to another province. But when I can go there and buy a 60 pack of coors light for $80 I'm goin to. That gives me a free 12 pack when comparing prices. You can get a 66er there for the price of a 26 here!!!! YES I am all for privatizing out liquor stores!!!!! I want the same sales as Albertans!!!!
We, my husband and I , do not drink alcohol at all. We have no need for this artificial stimulation. And we know the evil effects of too much alcohol, let alone the effects of alcohol long-term on the mind and body. It would not hurt our feelings at all if there were no sale of the stuff at all!!
Alcohol should be available in grocery venues at a fair price. I understand that currently the mark-up on liquor exceeds the actual price that the government pays for the product. This should change.
The government will get more revenue from government run stores as all the profit stays in the province either in government coffers or employees pockets. Private stores want to make a profit - they are not concerned with the social accountability of selling the 'drug' that is alcohol.
Strongly support private liquor stores
I feel like the stores that maintain a healthy track record including low overhead and high sales should remain. I enjoy the wide

product selection in our slga stores and good customer service. The higher over head and lower sales stores should fold, especially the stores with aging infrastructure. I'm not adverse to allowing popular wines/spirits/beers into the private sector.
The consumption of alcohol is a huge problem in our culture. Though I understand the need to maintain revenues to keep other programs afloat, this government is not doing enough to stem the abuse of alcohol in Saskatchewan. It's reprehensible, quite frankly, that the privatization of alcohol sales has become more of an issue than the health impacts of continued consumption and over-consumption.
sell off all the Govt owned liquor stores, and just run the wholesale side of things.
Generally, alcohol is a scourge on society. It harms individuals and families. My most preferred option would be 1920s-style prohibition. Recognizing, however, that that will not happen, I want my government to focus on things that matter and get out of the business of selling booze. Let private merchants sell the product, but place sufficient regulations in place so it's not a free-for-all. I live in Prince Albert, which is perhaps more negatively affected by alcohol than any other community in Saskatchewan. If I see .+ than I currently do, I will need to move out of this city.
if i were an employee i would want the option to have first dibs on a franchise. And if i dont want to invest in myself, why should i be in the business?
I would really appreciate the convenience of being able to purchase alcohol in all major grocery stores.
'Impacts on the number of government jobs' is not an issue. Why should we care if a certain product (alcohol) is sold by gov't employees? People that argue for this would logically be in favour of gov't run gas stations & grocery stores. I do appreciate the professionalism of most SLGA staff and expect privatization would change that experience a little, but the premium we pay for wine & beer is terrible, that more than anything is what I want changed.
Eliminating the stores from government ot private, will reduce the money that the govenment makes, therefore creating short fall in other programs. We need to maintain the liquor stores for that alone.
NO TO PRIVATIZATION!!
Government should not be involved in liquor sales waste of money operating there own stores and all should be privatized so we have a more competitive market and would create more jobs through private sector.
Having lived in other provinces, I find the availability and high prices of alcohol in the SLGA stores to be outrageous. The hours of availability are also very poor. There is no need for government interference on alcohol pricing and availability - once people reach the legal drinking age, their drinking habits are their responsibility.
Locations in town. The west of Regina from North to South has very little choice and not safe areas to purchase after 6 pm. Like idea of being able to buy in grocery lot. Hours need to be later and offsales shouldn't be able to hike prices so high.
A mixed retailing model with existing gov't stores is fine although I'd be equally happy with a fully private retail system. Regardless, the government shouldn't try to control the number of private suppliers except to make sure they meet minimum performance standards (e.g. no criminal activity/links to organized crime, not selling to minors, not selling below a minimum mark up, etc.). Let the market decide how many stores it wants, and where, by voting with its wallet. If some private liquor retailers go bankrupt, then so be it.
Good luck on doing whats right. Keep the intent of what you are doing first and foremost in your thoughts.
I would like to know how this will impact revenue from liquor sales. If privatization occurs, a private company would earn part of the profit unlike now where SLGA collects 100% of the profits. Yes, there is 100% of the liability and cost of building maintenance, etc, but there must be some profit made above and beyond the cost of running liquor stores and that profit would be higher than the Liquor Consumption Tax or else private companies wouldn't want to invest in SK. My thought is why are we giving profit back into the hands of private companies, that yes create jobs (ones that give less benefits and lowers wages to the employer than SLGA)but it also takes away funding for sports and recreation in this province? I know many community groups that depend on government grants from liquor and gaming for them to exist and I truly believe this system will be severely impacted. The reasoning also is that money will be reinvested in highways, school and healthcare. In the recent Thrown's speech, there was no mention of healthcare or education, two sectors where they are both going through government-forced "efficiency" revitalization which is only making the employees work harder and both less effective. Why are we treating education and health care as a business? Highways have been crumbling for years and the ones that are being rebuilt are taking a ridiculously long time and they aren't standing up because the government has also "stream-lined" all of the work to private companies. To bring it back to my point, I don't think the money you will save from liqour stores will help the major flaws in education, highways and healthcare. I truly don't mind change, as long as it benefits the people who need it the

most. Also, I heard Minister McMorris say today on the news, that prices may not be that drastically impacted even though that was one of the biggest reasons of the elimination of liquor stores, because it was "better for the consumer". Also to say that SK liqour stores don't carry a large selection, I can recall many times being able to find products in SK that I was unable to get in BC and AB. I also would like to say that the workers at SK liquor stores are VERY knowledgeable and I truly don't think you get the same experience in a private liquor store. I have lived in SK my entire life, and chose to stay in SK when going to university and choosing a job not because of it's prosperity, but because of its public services. I grew up very close to Alberta and if I wanted AB, I would have moved there and so would have many others. This government needs to stop trying to keep up with our money-hungry neighbors to the west when we have many benefits of the way our province is ran. Privatization doesn't always increase competition in turn lowering prices, and I think the government needs to rethink some of its strategies and remember what the "Saskatchewan way" looks like.
I purchase all of my alcohol at the Co-op liquor store since it opened. It would be great to be able to get beer and wine at the groceries stores as well. The government is going to continue receiving the tax dollars no matter where the alcohol is sold. I support more privatization of the liquor sales.
The government should focus on treatment and preventative programs to decrease rates of alcohol abuse. I believe that government-run stores are the best option to ensure that regulations are being met.
Alcohol is not a normal commodity. Increase sales = increase harms. Increase access has many negative consequences. Develop a comprehensive alcohol policy: this is no way to manage. It is not Lean, as it creates a "work around" for community safety, policing and health.
I strongly prefer private over public liquor stores!!
If the government liquor stores had a more vast selection, which more area of refrigeration I would shop there all the time! The only reason I go to the private liquor store is more variety, and refrigeration!
Private stores are a bad idea.
I would like to see an alberta style system. this expands the amount of products available. This has already been seen at the Coop Liquor store in Saskatoon. the current liquor board stores are limited selection and very little refrigerated
Saskatchewan already has more than enough off-sales and after-hours liquor stores- most of these with a very poor selection. The SaskLiquor stores and their staff here in Prince Albert are by far the most knowledgeable on the product selection offered. I do believe we need more fine wine and beer stores.
This survey is poorly designed - it would not pass a basic research methods course as it makes numerous presumptions in the questions it asks and leads more readily to certain answers.
Bring in more craft beers. Bring the price of beer in line with other provinces, it is extremely overpriced here.
I think there is great access to liquor stores and their hours of operation are great. Staff are friendly. I also like that government owned liquor stores likely pay staff better and they likely have access to benefits. That benefits Saskatchewan more than minimum wage jobs at offsales and private liquor stores. .
Add domestic beer and wine to grocery stores.
I think that a higher tax to alcohol is insane. I strongly feel that its just a greedy way for the govt to tax the people even more. Commonly known as a "fun" tax. Private locations have a much better selection of alcohol, and are much more user friendly than a govt location.
I don't like the way Alberta has turned into after it privatized liquor stores. They should remain in government hands, paying a living wage. No private liquor stores!
get out of the business
I say no to privatization! I see no positives, loss of government jobs, prices aren't cheaper! No thanks
Saskatchewan should be able to get the same access to alcohol has that people in Alberta do. I know in a small city like Moose Jaw it is a real pain to have to drive all the way to an off sale when I have a Macs/Petro Gas station 2 blocks from my house to go there for some off sale would be great.
Would. Like to support mom and pop operations.
It's time for the government to get out of the liquor business!!

I would support Option 5, the Expanded Government Retail System. I think it's a great idea that conserves what is good about the present system, but allows us to move to more convenience.
There needs to be more options to bring liquor into Saskatchewan. The current framework seems to make it hard for craft breweries and distilleries to operate. We should be doing more to support Canadian business rather than supporting the big foreign owned breweries like Labatts and Molson-Coors. We need more Paddock Woods.
I understand that the general revenue fund receives a net benefit from the sale of liquor in the government owned stores. Therefore the questions suggesting that funds will be freed up to be reinvested in other programs is disingenuous and seems designed to generate answers that can be used to support a particular point of view. I believe that if the relative wage rates paid in government owned versus privately owned stores were presented to the public, the choice would be clear. I do not see the need for greater access to a wider range of liquor brands. There is already much more selection than one person could sample in a reasonable adult lifetime.
I don't want any government liquor stores.
I feel government stores are most likely to ld customers and keep liquor out if the hands of minors. This is why I fully support them.
This survey is awful.
Selection of craft beers NEEDS to increase, everywhere. Alcohol selection is better and cheaper in Alberta and BC. There are so many products I wish I could special order that I know are available from the producers, but not sold in Canada. I should have some form of special ordering from those places, outside of just SLGA. More private stores would allow me to do this.
Most of my reasons are not included as options in the answers. I buy at the liquor store to support the system, not because of my own needs. My main concern with the change is the potential to decrease wages for employees of liquor stores. Retail jobs don't pay enough to live, we need less of these jobs and more good paying jobs. I don't care if the store is public or private, as long as the employees keep getting paid well and wages do not decrease.
The second option seems to be a good mix - as government would save operating and capital costs on liquor stores, but would maintain a necessary tax base to support schools, hospitals, highways, infrastructure, etc. While a private system sounds appealing, there's no guarantees that prices will be lower or accessibility will increase, although there will then be a loss of revenue that will be difficult to manage.
Keep the government stores
The liquor store in our nearest community closed this summer. I miss the the government run store, specifically because of privacy. Also selection and knowledge of the staff. Do whatever necessary in the cities but leave rural Sask. alone. We lost 3 employees in our community and their wages. So the grocery store may do more business in liquor sales but he has lost a lot of grocery business. The Co-op is happy because now these employees are all driving to other communities to work and have to buy fuel. What a shame. The building is now for sale. For what???? Closing stores in rural does not change your bottom line but it does effect our community and families...
You and your corporate friends are thieves.
Government should never have gotten into retailing in the first place.
Keep it the way it is. We can't rely on potash and oil for much longer. Saskatchewan needs to continue with these operations for the betterment of the province!!
I know the existing franchises are very important small businesses in communities across the province. Many of them have invested heavily in building relationships with commercial and personal customers. Careful consideration of the impact on them is critical as changes are considered.
Make this happen
Divest in government run liquor stores, maintain some level of governance over private liquor stores but also regain price competitiveness with our provincial neighbours. Event regulation (not part of this survey) needs to be addressed as well as SLGA rules are archaic and way too overprotective leading to sanctions and fines for business for infractions that have no realistic protection of a consumers safety (ie: all alcohol served must be opened upon serving, maximum drinks per purchase, etc.)
I can buy wine, beer, etc. at reasonable prices in grocery stores and other outlets in most of the US states - why can't we do the same here?
The entire liquor system in the province and in the country needs to be overhauled. Availability doesn't cause alcoholism or

impaired driving. People who want to get minced are going to do so regardless of whether the liquor they buy is from a private or crown store.
Daily liquor sales during business hours and I should be able to buy refrigerated beer at Town bars in the evenings. Example; Lintlaw Sk bar needs offsale after 8 pm.
More access for rural Saskatchewan would be an asset to the province over all.
It makes no sense to me to privatise liquor sales in this province. Maintaining control over sales and distribution in slga storrs provides good paying jobs to employees giving them purchasing power and also ensures the government maintains a consistent revenue stream. I find the question asking if by divesting control of liquor sales it would lead to more dollars being invested into health and education to be quite misleading. It makes much more sense to me to continue to receive revenue from slga stores and to invest those dollars into education or health. The purpose of this questionnaire was obvious. The government wants to privatise and designed the survey with leading questions to lead people to respond in favour of the suggestion.
If they are not profitable and in smaller towns it makes sense to privatize but I believe the local bars should get first crack at them as they have been struggling to stay alive for a number of years now and maybe a liquor store added to there existing business gives that little boost they need to make them viable again. Giving it to the Coop as an example, nothing against the Coop its just an example, as they recently got a became a private store in Saskatoon and I dont see as it really fair to the locals when they can open up down the street as basically competition and make the local bar owners business an even tougher struggle than it already is. The people that have struggled in the business and the down turns in it the last number of years deserve a bit of a reward. It's a tough business and the ones that are left have obviously done something right to stay around but I'm sure they are still struggling day to day. When is someone going to stick up for these guys. If they were in the oil,potash or grain business the government would be all over it and get involved and look at the viability issues of these places and make changes to make them viable. But because it's a liquor business no one wants to talk about it and if we ignore it long enough it will just go away. Come on People stand up for you local taverns, bars and nightclubs or they will soon be all gone. Facebook and social media is not the same as the local gathering hole and face to face discussion, is it? Quite honestly though this survey doesn't really get a true picture as I would think there is probably at least 3 different ways to see this issue and whether your from a small town, a small city or a big city your opinion will be different so you really need 3 different policies to meet the different situations. One policy to meet all is going to be flawed for sure.
Liquor should be available in grocery stores - particularly beer and wine. It seems bizarre that we need to go to two different stores for groceries and liquor, especially after spending time in Europe and the US where this is the norm.
Completely private liquor stores in Saskatchewan.
I do not think the question asked about should the government spend money building more liquor stores INSTEAD of repairing highways etc. This question skews the results. Government liquor stores are a source of revenue and keep prices competitive with private industry. We need both.
General Comment: I have a split residence, Saskatoon, SK and Etobicoke, ON and typically work outside of the Canada 25% of the time. The new Saskatoon Co-op Liquor Store is one of the more pleasant experiences I've had in a Liquor Store. The selection is very reasonable (although I have seen better) and the staff have always been very responsive to my needs. If this is the direction Saskatchewan continues to move in, the government will get my fullest endorsement.
I also support the Provincial Government selling marijuana in publicly owned liquor stores.
I have no problem purchasing from the Sask Liquor stores. My issue is in the selection. If more could be done to bring in more craft beers such as Alberta and Vancouver do, I would be more inclined to want to purchase from them (as long as the prices are reasonable). The whole issue the younger generation in and around the 30 years old is that there is no selection for beer. We are no longer our parents generation where just coors light, kokanee and pilsner is good enough. We want selection and this will keep the younger individuals from just going to get drunk every weekend on the filler beer brands.
I think the Government is supporting our province by investing in liquor stores by creating good well paying jobs for our people which ultimately improves the province. As well I think keeping prices high is good for the province economy wise and the profit we make off liquor is important and should be maintained.
I would approve of the Alberta model to fully privatize the liquor retailing system.
I think if done correctly we can follow the model of Alberta private liquor stores can be an advantage in SK. In regards to worries of social harms I believe if people are going to get access to liquor and advise it they are going to do it regardless whether it's a public or private store
Making liqor expensive is not a solution to reduce social harm! It is the same reason that drives kids to drink other illegal

substances and get sick or worse! Responsibility is not a government concern and it should not be by driving prices higher!
I don't think we need more access to liquor at cheaper prices considering we have the highest rate of drinking and driving and underage drinking in the country. I think the public is being misled into believing we are going to have cheap liquor if the province decides to privatize, the gov't is still going to make the same amount of money off a bottle no matter who is retailing it. Liquor store employees contribute to the communities they work in. I think SLGA could be run more efficiently, as could any gov't entity including the Wall gov't! SLGA makes and contributes more money to the gov't than all the other crowns put together.
Retailing alcohol is simple, if a gas station or corner store can sell cigarettes then why can't they sell alcohol. Responsible business owners will follow the rules. Let's move into the modern world.
The revenue from the Government Liquor stores can go to fixing roads, Hospitals, Schools ...etc.
The question related to not wasting money on lbs so you can invest in healthcare is unfair. This is a profitable crown corporation and why you would want to privatize is crazy.
If the issue is increasing the number of sku's in a retail outlet why can't the SLGA stores simply addthose same additional sku's. The product travels throught he SLGA System and could be allowed into the Government stores as well. Also why couldn't the Government stores sell cold beer? The disparity in pricing in Alberta from one place to another makes the purchase of alcohal a crap shoot, i like the same price in Regina and La Ronge i am not being gouged ay any time. I suggest as a supporter of the Sask Party that we have other issues beyond the Private sale of booze. Get off it already and keep up the good work you have been doing. Focus on the important things and forget the SLGA
We have enough drunk drivers in this province. Go to private liquour sales and we throw away more tax revenue. I'm getting tired of this government throwing away revenue to support business owners instead of taking care of the people who have lived and worked here for the past 50 years. What, we need more to work in your crappy private liquor stores?
I hate when they state that if the liquor stores privatize that so much money will be lost not going to other programs and job losses, etc , but if they privatize they "will" be businesses that will be paying tax and will still need employees to run them.
No
stop privitizing everything.
I believe the existing structure works just fine. Privatization of all existing government liquor stores is a slippery slope and I am worried it would lead to continued privatization of other crown corporations and government assets. The money raised from government liquor stores can be used to bolster lagging social programs in the province. However, I do not see a problem with the continued granting of a few new private liquor franchises in the province.
Well i would just like to say that i am originally from Alberta and when they switched from government owned too privately owned liquor stores it had its good and bad about it. The thing i found coming to Saskatchewan was how expensive the liquor is here compared to Alberta. The whole Day and Night time pricing is ridiculous. Only bad thing is all the jobs people can lose but also the funding of the government should be more focused on infrastructure and other things as well.
If private options are pursued, they should not lead to a reduction in regulatory oversight. Minimum prices, restricted hours of sale, and maximum number of locations in an area are all important policy tools for minimizing social harm. Separate these tools from the ownership debate and it is easier for me to support privatization.
I would like to see the numbers from Alberta when they went private. I am guessing the govnt makes more money now but have not seen the figures. Make them public
I will support a non union vender prior to any sgeu site. I would enjoy a wider selection of both wines and spirits.
I struggle with the government setting minimum pricing standards in order to reduce alcohol-induce harm. Most adults regulate their consumption by their physiological response to alcohol. I believe having a minimum age of purchase of alcohol is a better control than price. Many residents of Saskatchewan bemoan the fact that alcohol can be purchased at a far cheaper price in Alberta. Also, alcohol can be easily brewed at home with readily available products from the marketplace, which raises a question of the efficacy of a minimum pricing strategy. I do believe it is important to protect people at high risk of harm, however. Are there examples of other effective government strategies that effectively reduces the risk of harm without penalizing the average consumer who uses alcohol appropriately?
I am fine with government run liquor stores, provided they attempt to bring in new or smaller (craft) product lines. I am sick of walking into the store to see mostly generic/low end brands of beer and spirits. I realize that it isn't feasible to bring in lots of different items all the time. Perhaps having a rotating/seasonal craft product selection (larger than 5-6 items) would be a good start.

They have help us out when we do fund raising for redtag day for aid's saskatoon.
Saskatchewan seems to fall way behind other provinces when it comes to our liquor sector management and operation. Our product selection is poor, our retail (gov, private, offsale) locations are lacklustre, our special order process is painfully tedious not to mention sluggish at best. Our pricing is OUTRAGEOUS. There are far too many restrictions and government hoops to jump through in regards to acquiring product from neighbouring provinces. It shouldn't be this difficult to commandeer fantastic product from other CANADIAN producers. Example being some of our excellent wines available in the Okanagan or Ontario. It's embarrassing. It's archaic. It's time to get with the times step up our processes. This is a time where independent microbrews, craft brews and vineyards are thriving and we have little to no access to any of these. Unless of course you beg and plead with the special order desk only to receive a couple cases of the product 6 months later. Step it up, Saskatchewan. Time for change.
Would like to see it sold right in the grocery store as is done in the US.
I think it is a step backwards to eliminate good paying jobs from the economy, which is what happens with privatizing government services. The costs don't go down, it just mean the profits are flowing into fewer pockets, often pockets that are not even in the province.
Do not privatize!!
People are travelling to Alberta for a variety of reasons and most of them come back with some sort of liquor because it's cheaper. We'd be better off adopting the "Alberta way" as there would be far more liquor purchased in Saskatchewan if it was priced competitively.
it should be like alberta all privately owned
government should use liquor sales to lower education costs PERIOD!!!
I feel that allowing more privatized liquor stores to come into SK would certainly benefit the customers. It is nice to have the extra variety as well as a chance to experience something different. Many liquor stores, even in urban areas, look run down and haven't been updated in years. They should be run like any other business with money being put into the up keep of the retail location. I feel privatized and licensed liquor stores will do a better job of this because they are more familiar with the process. Regardless of what you are going to buy, the experience you have at a place is something you remember. If I go to a run down, dingy, dirty, floor peeling government owned liquor store, chances are I will choose a nicer location the next time. In regards to pricing, I don't feel like making alcohol cheaper would have a long-lasting effect. Initially people may buy more simply because it seems like a good deal, but if it becomes the regular price, I don't believe the population will feel obligated to purchase more because of the lower price. Those who want to drink, will, even if they can't afford it. I sincerely hope that someone does take the time to read these comments; by "these" I mean not only mime, but the comments of everyone who fills out a survey. Thanks!
turn the liqure stores over to private stores
The prices need to be much lower.
I currently work at an Off-sale liquor store. I love my job, I love helping customers choose a product that they will enjoy. They love that I have product knowledge I get compliments all the time. I do how ever get lots of complaints on the price's. Fortunately enough it's not that they are angry at the establishment I work at because the prices at my place of work are relatively equal to the prices across Saskatchewan. I'm a young guy 22 years of age, I have lived in Newfoundland, Manitoba, Alberta, BC and now Sask for the past 3 years. What I enjoy the most out of all the provinces I've lived is taking weekend trips back to Alberta because that means I'm picking up a fresh stock of liquor for my home bar. Not only for myself but for my friends & family that give me credit to bring alcohol back for them. I've noticed that in Saskatchewan it's roughly $2 more for a dozen beer in some stores.
I DO NOT support liquor retailing. Use the money that is earned to support other projects (ie, hospital, roads, etc) I would hate to see liquor being sold on every street as in Alberta. We do not need more stores, what we have now works very well.
Start talking about increased revenue due to decreased costs
This survey and the wording of the questions is set up to get the answers the government is looking for. Thank you for the making it seem like we are actually making a difference in the decision even tho we aren't
I THINK ITS TIME FOR THE PRIVATE TO TAKE OVER
As a previous employee of SLGA I am aware that 20 stores generate 80% of the revenue. No other business would keep over 50 more stores to earn that other 20%. Like the idea of both Government and private owned liquor stores
I think that our current government run liquor stores are very competitive in pricing and have all the selection I need. It is far more important to me that the people who work there receive a real, living wage. They can support themselves and their children. They contribute to my community with their taxes. They have good health insurance and good pensions. When they

are ill or ready to retire or their children need medical care they are not a burden on social programs because they have a job that pays and cares for them respectfully. If these stores are closed in favour of private stores only the owners of these stores will benefit. The workers will make minimum wage or a tiny bit better. They will not be given good benefits. They will need subsidized housing, will need other social programs, will not have as good a quality of life. They also will contribute very little back to their community in taxes as they will be paid so little. I think the costs overall would be far greater. I wish that the government would value the needs of the workers above the wants of a very small group of people wealthy enough to own a store to have even more wealth. Saskatchewan has a proud history of a strong sense of public responsibility and of taking care of our people. I think privatizing liquor stores is a mistake and that it allows a few private businesses to benefit while the majority of people (workers) will pay the real price. Let's think ahead and think of the big picture!
Free market is always best
Private stores will not be cheaper in the long run. Alberta prices are comparable to ours now
Leave liquor stores alone. We need more good paying jobs not more minimum wage jobs. We need to maintain control of sales by professional s not teenagers making minimum wage not caring if they sell booze to kids. Standards, quality and our economy are far more important than your obsession with privatize ing everything we own and breaking us. We don't want this.... you do!
Privatize all stores and open up the tenders market to whomever may want to open a store in Saskatchewan.
I have been to the Sobeys and Costco liquor stores in Alberta and I don't see why Saskatchewan should be any different then them. Their prices are way better then here.
Leave liquor puirchasing the way it is now!
Please priviatize and lead sask into the future.
yes, I would like to see a Alberta style system in place.
I have lived in 5 different provinces in the last decade. SLGA liquor store's lag far behind the quality I've experienced in any other province I've been to. It's not about public or private... I would like to just see our public liquor stores offer better selection, have better hours, a better website and WINE CHILLERS (stop selling me warm white wine! Honestly, it's embarrassing that I can't get a decent selection of chilled product at even the bigger SLGA stores in Regina)! I'm not someone who generally cares about the decor of the store I'm in... especially if it impacts the price of the goods. BUT you walk into an SLGA store and the whole look of the place just tells you "We are going to offer you an inferior buying experience." I am happy to pay higher liquor prices to support the government. I don't want or need private liquor stores in this province... I just need our public liquor stores to seriously step up their game.
being born in Saskatoon, i respect my Saskatchewan Crown corporations, government controlling the alcohol sale and distribution in this province is not what I would like to see, competitive fairness in an open market system as I already do my civic duty to pay into Crown corporations via SaskTel,SaskPower, and Saskatchewan government insurance is fair enough.
Social harm won't be reduced by higher prices. That can only happen when you treat the existing issue of poverty and addiction. Social harm will occur regardless of price. Lower the prices and increase the selection. I shouldn't have to go to Alberta for a better selection of beer at better prices.
i'm ok the way it is, get on with more important things (health care ,roads ,real affordable housing ,easier accsess to services for seniour's and the disabled ..
Increased product range, particularly small producer options, is greatly desired.
My only complaint with the Liquor distribution is that there is only one store in town, which is clear across town in a not at all convenient spot. If cigarettes can be sold in grocery stores, then why not liquor
The only reason anybody would want to privatize liquor stores is if they had the misunderstanding that it would somehow magically drop the prices of their favourite beverages. The almighty dollar is the bottom line. Some of these people crying to privatize are only told part of the story, and would be devastated to learn that they will not, in fact, magically get a 50% discount on beer. Tell the whole truth!
The gov't liquor stores give FULL time employment, and good wages, and benefits. ALL the money stays in Sask, where as a private owned will pay some tax to gov't but we need tax money for roads, hospitals etc. Big grocery stores, almost never have full time positions and many only pay min, wage. The service and knowledge at a gov't store is suburb....I am for free enterprise, but not for this..
how is any monies lost by selling stores made up to support future budgets or is it spend once an god help the next guy?
PLEASE leave things the way they are now!!! Think about the employees! Consider the other provinces that had gone private and now wish they wouldn't have...like Alberta plus some of the States as well!

Keep it givernment owned as it keeps alcohol out of the wrong hands .
As long as government revenues remain the same, the sale of alcohol should be privatized, but any SLGA stores that continue to turn a profit, should remain.
The government should not be in the retail liquor business.Especially paying union wages and pensions. The regulation is a whole other issue. If you think cheap booze would cause more social problems then just have a look at "dry reserves" or Nunavut. You want to know how I really feel, pick up the phone. There is not enough room on the internet for me to keep going. Needless to say I would just like to be able to buy a bottle of wine while I buy the rest of the groceries in the store. How terrible would it be to buy a case of beer while I am gassing up the truck to go camping for the weekend. It is just ridiculous they way it is now!
Privatizing liquor stores will not lead to better prices for consumers, more revenue for government, nor growth. This seems to be an ideological decision rather than a rational one. If one looks at the per capita statistics for Alberta over the past 19 years since privatization, their consumption per person has dropped, and their revenue from liquor has increased at a rate of less than 1% per year, which seems to be extremely sluggish growth and not to be envied or emulated. If this government is going down the privatization road, contrary to what they have promised in elections, they had best run on a platform of privatization and let the voters decide.
Liquor causes a lot of harm to the public. Keep it public and reivest the money to pay for all the trouble liquor causes. Otherwise that money goes into private pockets and everyone is left to pay to clean up the mess.
I feel that government run liquor stores should be phased out
i personally go to Alberta about 2-3 times a year to stock up on cheaper booze. Why can't we get a Costco here to sell liquor. why do we always seem to have higher prices for the same stuff. We are a have province, but we have to go elsewhere to get cheaper prices, not only in booze, but retail clothing stores as well. I find this province frustrating in a lot of ways. When do we get tax breaks? I am off to Alberta this weekend again to stock up for Christmas. So it would be nice to get the same price break here in this province. thanks
leave it alone keep what has worked for a long time
Privatize like Alberta, You will still make revenue through taxation without the overhead of operating stores. You will find Sask people will buy in Province instead of going else where if privitzation happens like in Alberta
It's 2014, private liquor stores should buy direct, sell at the price the market dictates and the gov should tax accordingly to maintain it's revenue. SLGA is a relic.
The Govenment needs to realize that the profits from Liquor stores is part of their revenue which lately has become a dwindling commodity. We cannot afford sell off all our assets and wait for someone else to come to our rescue. We need to be fiscally responsible. What legacy are we leaving for,future generations, change is good if it makes sense both practically and physically.
No one cares who they are buying from (private or gov). The only complaint everyone has in Saskatchewan is liqueur prices are way to high, that's why sask residents are buying more alcohol in Alberta when they visit.
The profit made on liquor sales in the province should be returned to the people of SK through investment in healthcare, highways, and other services provided to all residents. Liquor causes many social problems for many people. The province should not be working to make alcohol more accessible. The province should use some of the profits from liquor sales to address the problems caused by addiction.
I believe in the free market system. Open the doors to privately owned stores, some competition in the pricing. Private stores would be able to change prices as their wages would be lower.
The biggest issue I have with the current system has to do with selection. The selection in BC, Alberta and Manitoba vastly exceeds that of Saskatchewan. It makes no difference to me whether the store I buy from is privately or publicly owned, but when the selection is as poor as it is today, I just don't bother at all.
Please, please, please get rid of the government controlled monopoly that is the SLGA. There is no reason for government to be involved in the sale of alcohol.
I think the government should allow the sale in grocery stores, having to have a separate building is not in any way going to affect sales, only burdens the company with more expenses. Having been a retailer of alcohol in the past who sold liquor withinmy establishment, I don't see any difference if a Superstore sells within the same building because in small towns there are businesses that sell within their ongoing business such add grocery stores, drug stores etc. If that has worked for small town why not in larger centres? I am also of the thought that there should be a paid board that oversees slga, people that understand the industry, understand

future developments, needs of business, desires of the public etc and can guide slga to better create the right oversight/laws in the alcohol industry. I find SLGA to be very outdated and full of bureaucrats that hold up change and creates a business unfriendly atmosphere. A board could better bring in modernization of this government controlled business.
Social responsibility and massive revenue are two things we only stand to lose with privatization. The whole "better selection" argument is quite a sham, conveniently cloaking the actual advantage that most consumers are after. Cheaper booze. This survey was very biased in it's word usage. Also, I wish this comment meant anything at all with regards to the decision my government is about to make.
I feel that government and legal control of the sale of alcohol in Saskatchewan is a number one priority. By privatizing and offering alcohol at lower prices in more places is going to result in more problems with alcoholism and addiction. I believe that our opening government liquor board stores on Sundays and for longer hours already shows the effects of more crime and more excess consumption of alcohol. Let's keep Saskatchewan Saskatchewan owned
Being from Ab. private liquor stores are the way to go. Gov. sales are wrong!! Gov should be the referee not sales.
Leave the existing stores in place, I'm ok with not opening any further Public stores, but don't attack the current employees who spend good money to support our economy. The current Public Stores provide excellent service.
I believe that it is not the Governments responsibility to guard our youth for easier access to alcohol. If that's where the concern lyes, we are here to teach our youth and lead by example not by hindering the publics access to alcohol. Saskatchewan is behind the times and should take note of what some other rather progressive provinces in Canada have achieved. I do believe that the Governments efforts should be directed towards more important issues, for instance children's healthcare, elderly care and our city parks. Sincerely, Regina Resident and Mother
There's no reason alcohol can't be cheaper like in the US
More private business is usually more efficient than government run business. So much better for government to focus on the things it does a better job of.
Liquor bussiness is alive and well in our province and I feel a public and private retail mix would give our province the best of both models .
Quit selling off the crown corporations! Plain and simple!
The government owned stores do very well, with knowledgeable, friendly staff.
Use Alberta as a model.
Have always enjoyed the selection in private stores in AB when out there to visit
The variety of beers available in SLGA is extremely poor. Not enough microbreweries and too many generic beer types.
The mixed system of public stores in cities and private retailers in small towns provides reasonable coverage of liquor sales. I do not support this governments musings of further privatizing liquor sales. I have had experiences in many different forms of liquor retailing and find Saskatchewan to meet or exceed most other jurisdictions. I hope this government expands SLGA retail space, as well as selection and DOES NOT proceed with an expanded program of private liquor retailers outside of the existing practice in small communities.
Government run liquor stores have to pay their employees too much money due to unions. This increases the price.
The govt should keep control of liquor sales. Alberta is not all that its cracked up to be. We used to live there and know this system is better
Privatize it all, too many union government jobs, the tax payer can't afford to keep paying for these over paid union jobs.
Keep liquor publicly run.
It time we catch up to the rest of north america!

Keep Liquor Stores Public and keep re investing the profits in Saskatchewan!!!!!!
I think that we have seen enough problems with private liquor sales in other jurisdictions to know that this doesn't work. Alberta gov't had to lower prices as they skyrocketed when privatized. Also, the loss of revenues would accelerate the need to privatize other areas and this is not acceptable. My ancestors built this province when corporations wouldn't have anything to do with us and giving our crowns away is an insult to them.
Given th opportunity to keep well paid people in our LB stores, I think they should be kept. No benefit can come to a community that replaces good jobs with poor ones.
The gov't should totally get out of the selling liquor, just keep collecting the taxes same as gas tax, the gov't doesn't own gas stations and sell gas....so why own the liquor stores?..Also let the liquor companies set the prices if set cheaper they would sell more and the gov't tax cut would be the same or higher, we need to see sales just like all other products we purchase...That's why we have sale flyers every week, so people can save a buck or two. Come on its a no Brainer.... I also would like to see liquor sales in grocery stores...Also implement store fines and temporarily closures for selling to minors....if they were to lose revenue they would check ID's..
Please keep both public and private liquor stores. That way everyone is happy. We do not have to privatize all liquor stores like Ralph Klein did in Alberta.
I believe the status quo should be maintained as it is now.
Ultimately I would like Saskatchewan to maintain age regulations for the purchase of alcohol but have it available for purchase at grocery stores and other retail establishments. A one stop shopping experience if you will.
Liquor sales in this province have been an issue for far longer than needed. The creation of some private stores has helped, but the pricing structure that those stores purchase their stock from do not allow for relief on the part of the consumer. The single biggest flaw with government run liquor stores is the lack of available cold beer. This has been an ongoing issue that is incredibly easy to fix, but the government run stores have seemed to be too incompetent to attempt this. I would support 100% privatization of liquor stores to help the consumer by free-market companies fulfilling needs as they arise, as well as the elimination of a conflict of interest by regulating liquor while also being the largest retailer of liquor.
don't want to see a liquor store on every corner like in Edmonton...more traffic, rowdiness etc...keep it contained..why do we want to encourage more people to drink and drive?
Would be great to see some better staff training at SLGA stores and make them more attractive with a wider selection, not just the brands by the biggest companies. A big part of the experience I get at the CO-OP in Saskatoon is staff that know the products & as a result more enthusiastic about helping customers. I travel a lot around the country. BC stores could do with some sprucing up. Alberta stores are all over the place. I wouldn't step inside some of them. Others are fabulous. I like the stores in Manitoba, the bigger ones seem to have staff that know the products. ON is great in the larger centers but smaller towns have less selection. The Beer Store in ON really sucks!
I believe the government should keep the private sector OUT of the liquor retail business; I understand the franchises in small communities but I disagree with off sale or later store hours; most that stop at an off sale have already been drinking and likely don't need any more; if they can't plan ahead they should go without! Our liquor store sales fund so many public services and it should stay that way; I don't need my taxes going up anymore or fees for the public services going up because millions of $$ have been taken from the province and given to some private business that likely won't even keep its money in our province. There is a time and place for private business but liquor stores is not one of them.
The order of importance to me about Alcohol sales in Saskatchewan. Government Revenue. Price Hours of Operation Selection Also having strip clubs that can serve alcohol i feel would be a great addition to the market.
I've lived in Alberta and traveled in the States and find the restrictions in Saskatchewan to prohibit my shopping of alcohol here.

Status Quo! There is no reason to change something that isn't broken!
I think that you have created a false dichotomy and a very leading question by asking if we should continue with public liquor stores or invest in more important services like roads and healthcare. Are liquor stores overall not profitable? Is it exclusively and either or proposition? I believe your survey is flawed and biased in favour of the result you (or your political masters) seek. Thanks for asking.
There are many more pressing issues and priorities facing Saskatchewan than liquor retailing options. This conversation is right up there with turning the clocks back and forward. Our focus shouldn't even begin to centre on issues such as liquor retailing outlets. This is a diversion away from the core such as the issues facing our children, seniors, women, poverty, education etc. Get the drift! Who cares about this, and no, if I wanted to live in an environment like Alberta, I would move there!
Alberta's model makes sense to me. The wholesale of liquor can be met by the government, but there is no good reason for state-run stores full of unionized workers. Consumer should be presented with far higher choice of product, hours of operation and location than they are currently.
Nobody talks about additional revenue from private liquor stores such as cost of wages and benefits for employees, rent and utilities of the buildings, and general maintenance of rented properties The government will save a lot of money!
presently, govt owned stores are limited for space, therefore, they can't carry some products that I have wanted and that they use to carry. The reason? Not enough space for all the SKU's. staff not as knowledgeable as the private stores I have been to. The private stores seem more interested in truly helping the customer find the right product. the private stores are far nicer inside.
Go to Alberta style of store system.
I do not want the gov't to give away profits to private company's that will not benefit Sask. Sounds incredibly stupid actually. Keep private liquor stores out of Saskatchewn. Keep the profits here in our province. Keep in mind the millionaires that will benefit, don't live here and therefore they aren't going to vote , now are they?? Privatizing the liquor stores is probably one of the stupidest idea's ever!! .
I like the idea of private liquor stores for the simple fact that you have more option for cold beverages and overall selection than government liquor stores. I have noticed that Sobey's seems more expensive than Co-op for liquor prices though. I would also like to see a change in the laws with partial nudity and liquor selling places. As a female, I think we (and males) should have the choice to present ourselves how we like for entertainment. Not that I would ever consider doing this! I find the atmosphere of a dancing/nude club enjoyable. Both the dancers and public seem to enjoy what they're doing.
Selection is poor, the amount of refrigerated product offered at government liquor locations is pathetic, and prices in saskatchewan are higher than anywhere else i have purchased liquor in my life in Canada and the United States.
I believe we should keep the stores public. The only reason people want private stores is for their lower prices, but the public does not realize the price is set by our gov. not SLGA. The Gov. should look at lowering their prices instead of demolishing a company.
Staus quo
DON'T GO PRIVATE!!!!
The problem I have us there is not enough choice in the market place. There is a very much larger selection of, Singe Malt Scotch for example, in Alberta stores, at a lesser price. There is also a very much larger selection of Micro Brewery Beers and imported beers in the Alberta market. There have been comments made, however, that indicate if Sask does decide to privatize then the costs of alcohol will rise exponentially. The cost of alcohol is getting to the point of prohibitive. There is also too much "control" by SLGA in the market place and, unfortunately, I do not see that changing in the near future, if ever.
The government should CONTINUE to invest money from the operation of PUBLIC liquor stores in health care, education, roads, etc... It should NOT be privatizing liquor sales so that revenue goes in to the hands of corporations. To say that the government is going to privatize liquor sales so it can re-direct those funds to health care, education, roads, etc... is misleading. It is an outright misinterpretation of the truth to get people on board, by thinking the money will be used to improve the lives of Saskatchewan residents. It won't. The profits will go in to making big business richer not improving our public services. This is blatant manipulation of the truth behind your privatization plan. Shame on you!

We travel to AB regularly as one of our kids lives outside of Calgary. Calgary has some great shops, but outside of the larger AB centers they tend to be crap.

My sister lives in Wpg & the store closest to her home has a great selection with staff that seem to know their stuff.

SLGA stores need some sprucing up & STAFF TRAINING. When I see something newer particularly wines I would like to hear more than "It seems to be selling well or I like it".

As a wine drinker I especially would like to be able to access a wider selection of wines than are currently available at the public liquor stores in Saskatchewan. Private liquor stores in both our province and elsewhere have a larger and better selection than the public Saskatchewan stores do. We do not live in Regina or Saskatoon, but do frequent their private stores when we are there and enjoy their selections. We wish such stores and selection were available province wide.

Time to move forward. Government does not need to be in the retail liquor business, leave it to private businesses. It will provide better selection and for sure better service.

In other provinces such as Manitoba and Alberta I have found that the private stores really aren't that much cheaper. I do remember a time when they were still corporate and people who lived close to either border would do a "booze run" because it was cheaper even then.Privatization lowers wages and typically there is no benefits.How does this help the economy or health of Canadian citizens ? Without the income from a crown corporation where is the money coming from to help fund i.e. the health care system.Does our taxes go up ? How do minimum wage earners or lower middle income earners tighten their belt some more? Saskatchewan is an awesome province to live in, I have lived here all my life. Don't wreak it ! I believe we should keep all crown corporations.

Liquor Consumption Tax is one of the stupidest taxes ever. Why should I be taxed for drinking a beer or having a shot of whisky once in a while?? You might as well add a lettuce consumption tax or a beef consumption tax too! Hell, just tax all groceries...

There is a law of diminishing returns here. Higher prices through markup means less people are drinking as much so less money is being made. Cut the markup in half, add a couple of points to the PST to make up the difference and everybody will be happy. Saskatchewan pays the highest prices for beer in the country (next to Nunavut)!! Why?

If prices were lowered it would shrink the import of alcohol from other provinces. Possibly the return would be close as more sales but less cost to the consumer would balance out.

Please keep revenues from alcohol sales, as there are innumerable health and social damages done as a result of alcohol consumption, and the government needs these revenues in order pay for health care and social programs such as addictions programs, food banks, shelters etc.

Status quo

I believe that liquour stores in Saskatchewan need to remain public. The revenues that are generated from the sales in public stores returns to the communities and that is vitally important. I do not believe that there is a place for private for profit liquor stores in this province and I personally would never shop in a private store. If the liquour store in my rural community was to close and a private one open in its place, I would be buying my liqour someplace else.

I like the idea of maintaining the current govt stores but any new ones that open should be strictly private. I also enjoy the idea of being able to get my beer at the same place where I buy my steaks aka the grocery store. I also appreciate going into a store where all the products that are suppose to be served cold are always refrigerated.

Also, the idea that putting a minimum price on alcohol somehow deters underage drinking is an archaic mindset. It's the same mindset that thinks a gun registry will keep guns out of bad people's hands. It just doesn't make sense. The price of alcohol has very little to do with underage drinking.

Let the liquor stores be private! As new stores are required they should not be government operated. the existing stores should be sold off so they can be privately owned. Current employees should be given first opportunity to purchase stores they work in and should also be offered low interest loans in order to finance the purchase.

I dislike the Alberta style liquor store setup - each store varies in price, prices are not cheap, selection is limited, and customer services lacks. Each store has only one objective and that is to sell and make a profit not caring for reputable recommendations on a product. Plus, I do not want to drive to a variety of privatized stores to buy an item at each location. I have visited Alberta stores on many occasions and have not found any that compare to the superb service I have received at the Sask run liquor stores. This is without a lie. Each time I have asked for help, I have found quality service in the government run stores and have had superior service and recommendation. This also occurs in the government run stores in Manitoba.

I do not care to see liquor in a grocery store and do not think hours have to be increased or opened on statuary holidays. If people are too lazy to grab a case of beer day(s) in advance, then too bad – we should not have to babysit or accommodate grown adults that cannot prioritize their time. If this is the case, maybe they should be living at home with mom and dad.

Overall the government run stores in my opinion are great. They may have some limited items that are not available in SK but other provinces have the same problems. If I had to choose any type of change, I would suggest specialty stores – i.e. wine,

scotch, beer – as long as proper channels for ordering are followed. But specialty stores have to be kept at a minimum as it takes away from being a “specialty’.
Example...I want to know how and why the price for a bottle of Highland Park Scotch is $74.00 here in Saskatoon but I can go to Alberta...even Medicine Hat and buy it at a regular price of $44.00 This is my biggest complaint. You correct the pricing differential and I could care less if the liquor stores are private or government owned.
Save our crowns. We need good jobs and the profit from liquor sales in this province. Stop the privatization NOW
Two major comments: 1) PRICE - I understand the taxes and base prices are used to support other government initiatives and I expect to pay some level of 'sin' tax for that. But, when I can buy a 1.5L of rum in the US for $17 and here it costs me almost $70 - THAT is crazy. 2) WHERE I CAN BUY - I absolutely want the convenience of being able to buy product at grocery stores and costco. Most times when I'm grocery shopping, that's when I would want to purchase wine or other liquor. Also, even if it totally messes with the government supply model, costco is able to source liquor far cheaper than any other retailer because of volume and special arrangements with suppliers. Why not let them pass those deals onto us here?
you mention that there will be 750 lost jobs but that will be offset by private employment, depending upon the model chosen there may initially be more jobs available but those will be lower paid with no benifits. I think there will be an increase in the head office staff and warehouse but there are going to be many problems that the already trained staff in the stores handle daily that will less likely be the case in private stores who are only out for profit. I believe the status quo is the best option or go back to total gov't control
I strongly feel that liquor stores should be kept the way they are. I support our government stores and feel that the social responsibility will decline and there will be a lot more under aged drinking happening with private stores.
All Public services are important, including public liqueur stores. They belong to the common wealth for the people,they are NOT there to be sold off for short term gain for the enrichment of a private entity. U have no right to sell off your citizens assets that will bring sustainable income to the province.
The Co-op and Sobey liquor stores in Sakatoon are excellent.
Make it cheaper.
Open more private stores
I really don't think, the price of alcohol in Saskatchewan is fair compared to other provinces or the US or european countries. And it will not help or change anything to sell alcohol more expensive than necessary. Whoever wants to drink alcohol, will do it.
no
No to privatization
I shop regularly at the Co-Op in Blairmore even though it is a substantial distance from my home and there is a franchise only a few kilometers away. Increased selection and competitive pricing are more important than what the ownership model is.
IF you control the distribution and let the retailers do the leg work for you, you'll make more money. and honestly... you'll make more. As I know people that bring back as much as they can from Edmonton every trip they can to avoid paying Sask's ridiculously high taxes. So if you were competitive. you would gain those sales... Great Job. Mr. Wall way to listen to Saskies :D
Privatize everything.
Do not privatize the liquor stores.
Frankly, I am so upset that this government is selling off our Crowns one step at a time!!! our taxes go up, for mid-income people, but the tax breaks go to the high income people. high income get tax breaks, and now that the government has determined yet again, that private-for-profit health care is the way to go....how does that fit into the universal health care. we need to get rid of this PC government!!!! we will never get back what we have lost....

Current model meets my needs. My experience has been that Alberta's model doesn't necessarily make liquor more affordable or have a wider selection of products. Some stores (e.g. costco, superstore) offer better prices and selection but the many small business liquor stores are in my experience more expensive than our public retail stores here in Saskatchewan. With all the issues currently facing this province it is disappointing to see Government put this level of rigor into liquor retailing. Lets see some leadership on the real issues please.
Better selection is needed. More specialty items would be great. I am displeased with the selection and the regulartory 'red tape' from the Saskatchewan Liquor Board.
Continue having government ran liquor stores. It creates well paying jobs for the people and in turn this money comes back in the economy. Privatization carries a slippery slope. We already have one of the highest alcohol related crimes in the country.... Having more accessibility to liquor at any hours of the day would create more crime and social issues... We should be concentrating on other social issues!
I would love to see liquor store inside of grocery store so I don't have to make another stop when I go shopping
If we don't have the money coming in, as we do now, we are not going to have money for hospitals and infrastructure.
get the sask gov out of the liq buisness
I believe that the current model, (with better hours)is a good one. I would be in favour of an increased number of government owned stores as the province expands. I found the "reinvest in other areas" question somewhat slanted. I would also like to commend the creators of the "Backgrounder" portion of the website for doing a good job. The infographics were well done.
Having good jobs created by selling a controlled substance is good government.
I feel the government needs the revenue from liquor sales. If they don't continue then the government will need to increase taxes to make up the difference.
I hope you change to privet outlets
You're questions show you have already decided to move ahead with privatization, so I'm not sure what this is going to accomplish. The government doesn't not invest in liquor stores they give you a profit just like the rest of the crowns. Selling them will lose that profit source and will result in increased taxes, there is no other way to make up the money. Also, if you are going to sell them, please sell them for a fair price. No gifting.
I prefer Alberta's private liquor stores setup.
What are you trying to fix? What issue exists? You are trying to create an issue where none exists. Privatized 2 wine stores -- how many are open now? I can only think you are trying to get people to ignore real issues -- like the handling of the saskPower issue and not having held responsible. The health care and wasted millions on the Japanese consultants. Concentrate. Your going to blow the boom by trying to over compensate with irrelevant issues. Don't be 2.0. Exactly what he did when he got in trouble -- made issues where none existed -- that cost him.
We need to stop privatizing and leave the good quality jobs as they are.
This government should quit pushing its agenda to "help its friends" by handing out lucrative franchises or other vehicles to diminish government revenues.
While I do see the advantage for government involvement in the retail economy tax and job wise I do not support such involvement. Liquor sales do not belong in government realm any more than groceries or tobacco products. Government should have other priorities such as highways and health care not be involved in retail. While jobs are important governments role should be to foster an environment conducive to private sector job growth otherwise they create an artificial economy.
If it's not broken, why try to fix it! I don't support privatization in ANY way!!
I'm filling this survey out when I'm in Alberta on business. I purchased about $300 worth of alcohol to take home. What does that tell you?
Keeping alcohol away from minors is hard enough but now it will be worse and enforcement will be more expensive. This is a bad idea.

Privatizing Liquor stores in Saskatchewan is a very bad idea on so many levels and I do not support private liquor stores in any way. Not only will the province lose millions of dollars that are generated in liquor sales that go to the people of Saskatchewan for roads and hospitals people will lose good paying jobs. And even if "no one will lose their job because of attrition" those are good jobs that will not be available to the young people in our province. And in case it's not obvious when people have good paying jobs they are able to spend more money which helps the economy. Prices will not be cheaper for liquor and will likely be more as you also want to increase taxes; if availability is an issue in some areas build another public liquor store. So please stop use the arguments that liquor is going to be cheaper; more available and better selection when you know that you are just telling people what they want to hear not the truth. I've bought liquor in Alberta and none of those statements are true for the most part. If you want to increase taxes please go after the ones that have the money to pay for that for example Oil Companies; Potash Companies all those businesses who want to take our resources for peanuts and give nothing back to the people of Saskatchewan. STOP SELLING OUR CROWN CORPORATIONS!!!
Government controlled & operated liquor stores create well paying government careers that help many Saskatchewan people directly and indirectly. These jobs help stimulate the local economy by allowing government employees to afford the products and services offered by those working within the private sector. At the same time huge revenues from the liquor industry are used to finance many of the public services we hold dear. The governments current involvement in local liquor sales holds them and essentially all of us accountable to make sure alcohol profits do not become more important than social responsibility. Saskatchewan residents both private and public should hold on to and protect this profitable industry that provides us fair jobs, excellent provincial revenues and a high standard for social responsibility. This to me is much more important than being able to purchase the next trendy product more conveniently from a private retailer who's main focus is their financial obligation to its share holders.
I think system is fine as is. Status quo.
Increase taxes to potash and oil corporations before cutting jobs to increase revenue.
I support Government establishments because they are cleaner and safer than EVERY off-sale establishment I have entered in my entire life. Don't force me to enter bars for off-sale when we have a safe option already. I find it hard to believe the government loses money selling alcohol, so the stores shouldn't be a burden.
Liquor is a drug quit trying to push drugs.
I feel liquor vending in Saskatchewan has always been overly paternalistic. I well remember going into a liquor store and having to make a selection on a paper slip, without ever seeing the product displayed. Then I went to BC where you could see it, as well as buy pop for mix. Then I went to Spain. It is available in every grocery store I have been in, beer, wine and hard liquor. Guess what, I have yet to see anyone displaying problems from drinking too much. I do agree though, that is must be incumbent upon the vendor to establish legal drinking age. Why must we go to a "special store" to purchase alcohol. Does that make us less likely to abuse alcohol? If so, why? Education about measured consumption would be way more valuable, than having a special place to purchase it. And, although I do support having as many jobs as possible, I think it is best to leave employment to the private sector under employment laws controlled by government. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey, it is welcomed and hopefully more use will be made of surveys in other areas of government spending for good guidance and support of the democratic process.
I think the government should maintain the same amount of revenue but I support more private stores and lower prices. I would rather the money stays in Saskatchewan than go to Alberta because people are travelling there to buy cheaper liquor. I would also like to see more selection in the stores. I do not want to see the people working at the government stores lose those good jobs.
Beer and Wine should be available in grocery stores. Not hard liquor though.
I would like to see the government use the SLGA stores as kind of a "baseline" market, carrying the "essentials". (If any form of liquor can be considered essential.) Allow more private stores, but allow them a boutique option. They can carry pretty much whatever they and their customers want to bring in, be it the "normal" stuff that the SLGA stores carry or something that SLGA does not. For example, the SLGA stores only have so much space they can devote to bourbon, so the variety isn't that exceptional. A private store should be able to bring in as much variety as they want and can make money on, as long as the minimum pricing rules are followed.
Concerned about the 750 jobs that would be abolished if the liquor stores go private.
Mr Wall I think its time you stay away from privatization. Its going to be your downfall come the election.
I do not agree with privatization of liquor stores. These jobs are what support small business in the smaller rural communities. And the monies the govt receives from the sales goes back into these commu ities thru spkrt and recreation fu ding that they would not other wise see. And privatization only benefits the private sector not the public. Why change whats working
Question..... How does the gov't plan on regulating the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores. Minors can go in and purchase

groceries, how are you going to stop them from purchasing alcohol as well. I do not take my children/grandchildren into liquor store when purchasing but I darn well do when buying groceries and I object to them being subjected to drunks!! Saskatchewan, if my information is correct, has the highest rate of alcoholism and drinkers.

I also feel, like selling tobacco, alcohol should NOT be sold in stores with pharmacies.

The only thing that has ever bothered me about buying liquor in saskatchewan is the lack of food/mix at the liquor store. I don't think we need to sell liquor at the grocery stores...just groceries at the liquor store.

and strippers with booze. in the same room.

One day I would love to go to a Safeway or any other store and buy beer or wine maybe even spirits God help us .

Privatize or go to a system similar to Alberta.The money saved rather than building and maintaining Government run stores could be better spent on health and highways

Keep the unionized workers in place in SLGA stores, people need these good paying jobs to make it in todays world.

If you are going to offer more private liquor outlets, then offsales should also get a discount on liquor purchased from SLGA.

The government should get out of the wholesale liquor business. If the government wishes to receives revenue from liquor sales, it should do so at the point of sale. Competition would increase service quality and selection in the wholesale business as it would in retail.

The government should also eliminate restrictions on alcohol imports, both from other provinces and foreign states.

I think that any new liquor stores should be privately owned. I do NOT want the government liquor stores changed to private liquor stores. I think there can be a mixture of both. There are many government liquor stores and they can stay open and when there are new ones needed the private sector can become involved.

I believe that by having private stores alcohol would be even more accessible to minors and those who abuse alcohol. At least, government own stores can use the profits to help those with addictions.

I've recently moved back to Canada from the US and I miss the beer/wine sales in grocery stores.

The government keeps advising the Saskatchewan people that the income from the liquor board stores a good why not use that money for expenditures on the liquor stores or invest the profit for the future building of stores.

Private should handle wine hard liquor and beer. Beer sales should not be in hotels only to keep pricing fair.

Open to all stores, like almost all States. A row or two in my local grocery store. I do not want separate stores, two stops, two trips through the register. One stop shopping please.

I do not believe that liquor retailing should be privatized. Liquor sales are a stable and reliable source of income. Our province relies so much on commodities that fluctuate and have upturns and downturns that we should not take the short-sighted view of getting rid of a steady source of income. Furthermore, as long as public liquor stores are profitable I believe money should be spent on their business to maintain and when possible, enhance their profitability. We do not need liquor stores on every street corner or open 24 hours a day. I believe our public liquor stores do an excellent job in serving our liquor needs and in trying to sell liquor in a socially responsible manner.

Twenty years ago the Alberta government swiftly and boldly threw open Alberta's markets in beer, wine and spirits. The result has been a success story of intense competition, added convenience and thousands of new jobs.

This article says it all.

About the last thing I think anyone with a sane, rational mind should do is say that getting people more booze cheaper is a good sign the province is doing good.

This is like saying why don't we make heroin legal just because a few people are dumb enough to say "sure, that benefits me, lets go for it."

I believe our government should look at all regions in Canada , not just Alberta ! Other regions have government and private together which work well together , such as Manitoba , BC , Ontario , Quebec and the maritimes . Everywhere except Alberta has both public and private which seem to work just fine . The price will not be any cheaper since the private stores will have to make a profit and our government will have to make the same revenue no matter what! Social responsibility will suffer since one private store will succeed while another will sell to whomever just to make sales!!

I would like to see fully privatized liquor sales. I don't feel the government needs to be involved at all. I would also like to see no minimum price for alcohol- let the market determine the price.

No, no, no, no, no, and considering Brad earlier said it didn't sound like we wanted liquor privatized...

NO.

Stop fishing for support on this!

The operation of SLGA liquor stores is more expensive than a private option. The government could collect the same amount of tax on liquor purchases (or maybe even more) while still passing some savings onto consumers.

Please don't go to an Alberta model.

If you're going to do anything, let's look at a made-in-Saskatchewan model that benefits the people of Saskatchewan, and not a "let's look at what other provinces do and copy them" model.

KEEP THEM PRIVATE AND STOP ASKING US THIS IS NOT ALBERTA.

I hope the government will consider commissioning senior public health officials to assess the public health implications of each of the options the government has put forward.

Thanks for taking the time to get public input on this issue.

I believe we need to keep our liquor stores publicly owned. No private ownership allowed. Keep it in our hands not profit mongers.

You were told plenty of times now nobody wants this but Alberta who complain the best thing for everyone is getting them drunk for cheap.

In my opinion, privatizing liquor stores does nothing for the people of Sask. and is probably only the beginning of this government's agenda to privatize our crowns.

Imagine the money this province would have if we had never privatized our potash.

What has Alberta gained from privatizing the liquor stores there? We should learn from other's mistakes.

Private business will decide when the market is saturated with stores just like any other type of businesses like sports, baking, gas etc.

Why do I want to invest my tax money into land, buildings, energy and union people just so I can buy liquor. Let some one else take the risk. Just take the mark up on the products, no head aches, no brainer.

government should not be in business. Private business would get rid of expensive unions and allow business to be run for profit, the way business should be.

I lived in Rural Sask and for many many years we had a private business selling alcohol!! The price was exactly the same no matter if I bought at the private establishment or if I purchased in the city! If the price would have been cheaper all the people from the city would have been coming out to our private establishments in rural sask! So for the CUPE union saying going private is going to hurt union members that is not true! I do believe that we still need the public establishments and we need to keep pricing the same because that money is needed for health care, education and our crumbling streets and roads! I drive the number one every single day and it is terrible how bad that road is! Yes parts have been worked on but much more needs to be done!!!

I like the Montana model with a combination of government and private stores. The private stores including grocery stores focus on wine and beer with some speciality spirits. The government store focus primarily on spirits.

The obvious greater availability of alcohol did not manifest itself in any greater level of public intoxication or abuse.

I want the liquor stores in SK to remain the property of the people of SK.

Privatization will lose my vote.

these questions are too long and wordy, my feedback is: do not privatize anymore liquor stores!!!! Use this money for our roads, schools, and other social programs! The revenue from our crowns is important! Once our crowns are all gone then what? once Saskatchewan belongs to every other country or people from every other country then what? then it won't matter who is prime minister or who is premier we will all be over tea kettle. We need these crowns or we are sunk! if you own a farm and decide to sell, then one day the person that bought it says, oh yeah you want milk, ok, but the price is now $30 a litre. and butter is now $52 a pound. What is you can't buy butter and milk from anyone else anymore? over tea kettle. think about it, someone needs to before it is too late

The level of markup on the wine from the Opimian wine club is ridiculous. All you do is receive it and store it for a couple days. No reason for SK to be 30% higher priced than AB. And when bottles are broken by LB staff there is no refund or replacement.

I don't believe that the reasoning for minimum pricing really holds up; the people that will abuse alcohol will find a way to afford it

either way, whether it's at their own expense or the expense of others through their recklessness. Price is usually the least limiting factor to the type of people that will abuse alcohol. We need harsher penalties on drunk driving and better access to support services for alcoholics. If we could focus all of the profits from government liquor sales into those problems alone, we would see alcohol consumption in general become less of a problem.

why is the government regulating alcohol?

harm reduction doesn't come from higher prices, as a recovering alcoholic, an alcoholic will always find the money for a substance, no matter how high the cost is.

so shafting the 90 percent of people who can drink responsibly is classic government .

signed, a concerned libertarian.

It has been my experience with our present government that they will do what they please regardless of public input. They like to give the impression that they actually care what we think but it's all a show.

I have lived in USA, Saskatchewan, BC, and Ireland. We need to remove the 1930's mentality regarding alcohol, reduce government involvement and interference, and continue to privatize these stores. There have been improvements, but there is also a goofy puritan idealism that civil servants need to bag my beer. Weird.

I do not agree with any additional private liquor stores and the government should at least maintain the government liquor stores that they presently operate. The government just recently privatized four liquor stores that should not have been privatized. Our population in this province is not that large and we do not need to lose more decent paying jobs so that big corporations can receive the benefits of the liquor sales. 80 million dollars profit in a year if substantial profits to be turned into the provincial coffers.

I personally feel that having alcohol priced by the level of alcohol in it has no positive help to the people of Saskatchewan. The people who have the money are getting gouged more and the poor are drinking gross chemicals from the cleaning shelves to get drunk.

If your worried about more places to purchase alcohol it doesnt matter, underaged teens will find a way to get it. It bugs me when i travel anywhere and alcohol is cheaper!

No Brainer. Liquor outlets should be driven by consumers, not government

Experience, atmosphere, convenience and selection in a store are most important.

Any approach should be accompanied by more education about the harms of drinking and driving.

Why would the Alberta style for liquor retailing even be considered when the 10 year comparison of % change in the net income per capita derived from direct alcohol taxation/mark-up shows a difference of 82% in Saskatchewan vs. Alberta at 18%. When government loses the ability to control the retail price they lose their ability to increase their share of the revenue derived from the sale of liquor especially when the lobbying power of the retailers becomes too large. This is why the Alberta government had to reverse their increase in their flat rate liquor tax in 2009 which cost them $180 million in additional revenue.

The government needs to get out of operating liquor stores. The wages for the unionized employees in these stores is outrages. The government also needs to get rid of the LIQUOR CONSUMPTION TAX as it does not deter people from drinking. If there is evidence that Saskatchewan has less problems with drinking than places where liquor is not so expensive, the government should reveal these findings. Cheaper liquor will not lead to more problems. People who can not afford the expensive liquor are already finding something else to drink.

The government should not give away profit on liquor sales to the private sector. The current setup works just fine with profits being put back into government coffers.

I think that an increase in privatization is important but also availability of most products below La Ronge level. So if the private sector can give me a reasonable variety then I say let's go that way; but I live in a rural community and still want the ability to purchase more than just pilsner, vodka and rye. I find that when the crown competes with private the private company's have a hard time competing. Think about how Sasktel still controls so much of the market. In rural sectors we have no other choice other than Sasktel. A less monopolistic mentality in phone, liquor and auto insurance would go a long way of improving competition creating more jobs and better prices for the consumer.

Oil and potash prices go up and down but you can count on revenue from liquor sales. why would we do anything that would lessen our ability to maximize what we our gaining from this cash cow. We can make improvements to our present system without increasing privatization which inevitably will decrease what Sask people will receive for hospitals, roads, schools.

There is no reason for government to be in the retail sale of liquor. I suspect it can leave retail and be net revenue neutral or perhaps earn more money simply wholesaling. It is also a huge conflict for government to be the private liquor store's competitor, wholesaler and regulator.

Allow all franchises to carry domestic beer for convenience
If I wanted to walk into some grungy store and have some person grunt at me while I bought dollar beer I would move to Alberta. I live in Saskatchewan and I want to keep my liquor purchasing experience the same as it always has been.
Retail sales of any product should be sold by private business
I strongly support private liquor stores here in Saskatchewan. It creates healthy competition and allows for more selection and lower prices.
Don't like options for private liquor sales anytime in Alberta. Stores are not fully stocked with lots of choice, wine stores, or beer stores or liquor, I prefer all under one roof with large selection as now in saskatchewan liquor stores.
I don't want my kids near liquor stores around parks, schools and recreation areas for children. I think Saskatchewan has a problem with alcoholism as it is, and can do with out easier access to it, I don't think the private sector really enforces the drinking age. I also think the revenue generated from alcohol sales goes to good causes.
It is very important that government maintains control of alcohol sales in this province. Mainly as social degradation prevention. But also it is important to continue to get the revenues from alcohol sales to fund other avenues in government.
I believe that you can have both a public and private competitive market, such as they do in BC, AB and even QC. I also strongly disagree that the province should have any role in how many stores operate in an area, that is not for government to decide - it would be like regulating how many coffee shops can be in a neighbourhood, or even convenience stores.
Most of the Govt run stores are well maintained, stocked and staffed. But as a taxpayer the staffing comes at a premuim for retail sales staff with no required degree and limited need for secondary education to perform day to day duties. The fact that they are unionized comes at a great cost as well. None of this is needed in a modern retail store to sell this type of product.
I think all liquor and tobacco products should sold in gov/stores
I believe that the profits from our public liquor stores go a very long way in providing funding for health, highways, educations, and so much more. The money from private stores would be minimal compared to what our public stores contribute. Please consider this as my children and grandchildren would like to see a healthy province that supports all classes of people not just the rich.
I believe that the private liquor stores should be pursued to make the pricing for alcohol competitive with prices in neighboring provinces. Additionally, Government funds should be used to invest in other higher priority programs rather than investing in aging infrastructure of existing liquor board stores.
I don't see the need to be exploring these options The is little to no demonstrated need for change I encourage the responsible use of tax dollars and feel the government is spending far too much investigating a problem that doesn't exist. Please reinvest our public dollars in resolving important issues.
I lived in Alberta for over 15 years; initially in the early 90's when liquor stores were being privatized and again from 2000 to 2010. There are three stark differences between buying beer, wine and spirits between the two jurisdictions. First are the significantly higher retail prices (nearly double in many cases) paid by the consumer in Saskatchewan. Secondly, workers in government run stores in Saskatchewan do not have anywhere near the knowledge (sweetness scales, food pairings, tasting notes) about the products being sold especially when it comes to wine and spirits and I don't believe it prudent for the taxpayer owners of these stores to fund their education in this regard. Thirdly, the selection of fine wines, rare aged spirits and unique worldly brews is drastically lacking in the government run stores in Saskatchewan. I find it deplorable that as a taxpayer I have to pay such high liquor prices so that those "high paying jobs" are maintained just so that I can tell the employee more about my wine and scotch selection than the employee currently knows. I would possibly be more understanding if that same employee would come to my business and pay my high prices and educate me on how to provide terrible customer service, but I digress. All Liquor sales should be privatized and regulated by the province acting as wholesaler. Any hybrid Public / Private system will not be fair to private businesses as is already apparent with the expanding selection of various single bottled beers in government stores taking away from unique product selections of private stores.

The time for the government to be in the business of retailing liquor sales expired in the 1960's lets be the second jurisdiction in Canada to figure that one out.
I am disgusted with the current Government privatization plans across the province. This government is selling off Saskatchewan and they will not get my vote ever again! Sickening way to operate this province. Too many decent paying jobs are being eliminated and contracts given to outside businesses. This is purely selling off Saskatchewan and people of this province are suffering because of it while the profits go elsewhere. This so called boom has had more negative effect then positive for the people pf this province!
Schools, roads, hospitals, policing.... that's where Government involvement in our lives should end!
our liquor laws are archaic when you consider the rest of the world.
let the private stores set their own prices.
If private liquor stores are allowed, where will the lost revenue from government liquor stores come from? Also, prices for liquor at private stores tend to be higher unless they have a sale on maybe one or two items.
I am a strong advocate for Government regulated Liquor stores to reduce social harm/negative impact on communities. But it is good to have accessibility to alternative outlets. Perhaps the gov't could proportionality tax an amount (in liters and subject to alcohol percentages) on bottles/amount sold in private venues. A type of tax on liquor in privately owned stores. Taxes on liquor should remain high to reduce the availability of alcohol consumption. I do drink socially and do not support prohibition.
We seen what happened when a private liquor store was opened in Saskatoon I believe. ? In goverment run stores all employees have to follow rules and regulations and also be accountable whereas private sectors to their advantage may not.
This survey is a bit of a joke. Many questions are disingenuous. Investing in government liquor stores provide profits which can be pumped into government coffers and help pay for programs.
I have lived and grown up in Saskatchewan, moved to Alberta for 2.5 years and then to B.C. for 2.5 years and I can honestly say that I prefer the Alberta retail model myself. Most stores in Alberta know their trading area and their demographic they are serving. In some cases there are a couple of liquor stores in close proximity to one another, but isn't that the same as the "coffee" retailing? Starbucks, Tim's, the Roastery all run successful business with loyal customers... the same happens in liquor sales. Even since the Sobey's came online here in Saskatoon, I much prefer that location to the one in Market Mall that I live right across the street from. Why? Selection, Airmiles, back end cooler, tasting, and price point. I am far happier driving to the Sobey's location than I am with walking to the one in Market Mall, which I use only use for a quick beer or wine trip if I don't have time to go to the Sobey's location. The public will decide who stays and who goes by sheer demand. I suspect, with the exception of some of the older folks that the Sobey's location in Stonebridge will exceed expectations and it will definitely cut into the Market Mall location rendering it unprofitable. My vote is to phase out the Provincial stores and let the private sector take on the responsibility and the liability. The Provincial Liquor Board will set the pricing and the retailers will do what they need to do to drive the business. Competition is good for retailers as it keeps everyone on their toes.
I wish for the government operated liquor stores to continue. I remember several years back the Riversdale Liquor Store in Saskatoon made a determination to stop selling large bottles of beer shortly before the neighborhood was gentrified. This stopped the flow of marginal people counting nichkels to pay for a liter of Big Bear. It was a good decision, and an approach that should be welcomed at the Dewdney and 11at avenue liquor stores in Regina wrt individual sales. I see fewer opportunities to regulate this type of practice with an expansion of private stores. That said, I wish the gov't would take a harder edge to its corporations. Not to privatize so much as to replicate successful practices. There should be discounts on bulk sales of liquor; staff should be managed to engender loyalty(not complacency); more attention paid to successful product lines etc I also think there could be room to expand beer and wine to grocery stores well limiting hard liquor.
I need to drive around town to get everything for coming party at my place. 1. Liqueur store (booze) 2. Walmart (cups,soft drinks) 3. Ice (gas station) In Alberta I can get all that in one place. And of course Government workers are lazy
It is not so much the physical locations that concern me but more the ability to purchase alcohol online. Specifically products that are not available through the SLGA. Small batch runs, limited editions, small companies and foreign brands are much more difficult to acquire because of this. I would be fine with the current ways things are set up for Brick and Mortar stores, but if I need to order a couple of bottles of

brands that the SLGA doesn't or won't bring in, I should be able to order these myself.
I do not think we need to be opening up liqour retailing to private business when the SLGA stores are perfectly fine. I do not trust Brad Wall or the Saskatchewan Party, and this seems like another attempt to move towards privatization and eliminating crown corporations that provide profit for the province in another short-sighted Conservative money-grab.
The government is fooling itself if it remains status quo. We travel to Alberta regularly and choose to purchase a majority of our alcohol there as a result of Saskatchewan archaic liquor policies. We will continue to purchase alcohol in Alberta and forego paying any tax in our home province until things change. We have a rural as well as urban property and in the absence of purchasing in Alberta we support our local outlet as they supply better service at the same price. It is time to get out of the thirties and get government out of the morality business. Start treating folks like adults and regular consumers.
The profits generated by the SLGA speak for itself. This money is utilized in Saskatchewan, for Saskatchewan people. Money earned by Government employees stays in Saskatchewan. Public employees are held accountable to the public; whereas, private businesses are accountable to the shareholders...wherever they are! ENOUGH ALREADY...with your lean/privatization agenda!! Shame!
I believe there is a place for private retail outlets but the government should still have full control over regulations and minimum pricing. It has been a important source of income for this province that does contribute to our health care and road maintenance. It should not be fully privatized.
We DO NOT support any private liquor stores. Saskatchewan leads the nation for drunk drivers. I am perfectly happy running to a government run liquor store to purchase my liquor. We never plan to buy from a private liquor store. We do not want a private liquor store in every corner of our neighbourhood. And finally, more will come!!! You would be laying off Canadians.
I feel, we have so many bigger issues to tackle in Saskatchewan, that privatization of liquor stores shouldn't be a priority.
Definitely do not lower the age restrictions. I hope this is not part of this process as a whole.
I am very disappointed in the sneaky way of introducing private stores as a small scale thing as a way to slide one past the public. I'm disappointed that my government values "better for business" (and by that I mean a few wealthy elite who will be benefitting from this situation) over decent wage jobs for citizens and important revenue for our privince. we don't need more minimum wage wage-slaves. We need decent paying jobs. Cutting the price of a bottle by 10% and throwing 100% of the profit towards Gaelon Weston is a big error.
I believe that there is no longer a policy or public good to be achieved by our government being in the retail liquor business.
I believe there needs to be a strong gov't presence in liquor retailing. The Alberta example of a liquor store on every corner is not needed in Saskatchewan. Oyen for instance a town of around 1500, at one point had 4 liquor outlets.Are we replacing Gov't stores by a process of slow attrition with the eventual end game being only private retailers? A way of replacing a crown agency without actually stating that as a gov't policy?
The government is wasting to much time on this topic. There is more important items that they should be dealing with. Such as global warming. With out a green world to live in we won't have a place to drink in anyways. Just get on with other items. Why are they so concerned about the liquor stores. Just more privatizing by the Sask party. What will be next.
Maintain the status quo while moving to provide enhancements to sales and service in the public realm.
Have lived in England where I could pop to the corner store for a bottom of wine for a very reasonable price, I'm amazed at how ridiculous the liquor laws are in Saskatchewan. I would like the freedom to buy liquor with my groceries at a reasonable price. If other provinces and countries can, Saskatchewan really has no excuse.
Keep the stores as they are. And be pro-active in your community
The government should continue investing in Saskatchewan even liquor stores
why is there not the revenue in this survey as to how much was made from liquor board store in the past
I think this survey is worded in a way to suggest that the government doesn't make money from public liquor stores... which isn't the case. I do see though, that it would make more money from the use of private stores, because you wouldn't have to pay the staff and you would still get the liquor consumption taxes. Doesn't bother me one way or the other if there are more private liquor stores. Just more options to buy from are a good thing.
Privatize liquor so that we are more like Alberta or even the US.

Keep liquour sales in the province the same and go Riders
I believe the most effective means of distributing alcohol is through Government Liquor board stores. Because these stores are not subject to the same price regulations as private sellers, the price the products goes directly to revenues rather than to private profit and tax revenues. This ensures that lower prices and potentially higher public revenues. Though I disagree with an increase in private liquor stores, I think that private retailers, such as gas-stations and convenience stores, should be capable of selling wine and beer during and outside of regular LB hours.
Small business can run and operate a store as well as the liquor store now,for the most part. From what I have seen lately the smaller Government run stores would be considered a Disgrace if run as a private operation.To much waste on staff, poor appearance upon first entering the store. The government would still control the basic price and availability any way no matter who operates the business.And revenue could be increased without having to deal with the unions and excess overhead. As for liquor retailing, open the doors. keep it at 18 to get in and consume alcohol (If you are old enough to fight for our country you should be able to drink in it) but also allow minors in, this would help reduce the parents from over doing it when their kids could see what it is the 'ADULTS' really become when under the influence. (Example try the USA) Under the same rules and exemptions, Allow strippers, both male and female in restricted clubs to eliminate the minors, and yet allow alcohol. only difference being if the club carries the female performer it should also have to run the male one the same evening, different times. Good luck with any changes.
There are plenty of place available at this time to support alcohol.
No privatization of liquor stores. No job loses. No doing this to appease your conservative cronies. Shame on you. This isnt Alberta!! Love how you are appealling to the social media. They dont have a bloody clue how they are being used to further your agenda.
Keep our liquor government run, with good government jobs, and extra revenue for the Saskatchewan people.
Would like the opportunity to purchase liquor at a grocery store. I should have to drive to another location if the business is willing to provide both services. Private liquor stores will provide better selection. We are paying far to much for liquor vs other locations.
I've been to the Sobey's store several times. It is a far greater customer service experience than I have ever experienced in any government store. Even though commercials try to tell me different, I know that sales from private stores also go towards better roads, schooling, etc... through liquor taxation. it also provides more realistic wages for employees enabling stores to hire more staff to better service their customers. No brainer.
- I believe that SLGA employees about 1,000 full time & part time employees not the 750 in your background data. - Very disappointed that your government would terminate the current 1,000 employees and replace them with minimum hourly paid employees - With the termination of 1,000 employees your government will lost a good portion of employee provincial tax base. - I believe that the price of all alcohol products will increase without the liquor retailing model
The government should be happy with sales tax only.I feel the less government in my life the better. There should be more compition to lower the price. I would also state that I drink next to nothing. I struggle to consume a dozen beer a year and less than 20 oz of hard liquor.
I think all business's that sell liquor should be on a equal playing field. The government should sell there liquor stores. The Government would wholesale liquor to private business without adding any more outlets. Once the population goes up in Saskatchewan then add more accordingly. At the end of the day you would have all liquor stores, private liquor stores, franchise's and off sale selling liquor on a equal playing field, with the government wholesaling the liquor.
Keep your promise Brad Wall and don't privatize Liquor Stores. The liquor sales support the province. Privatization will not.
Don't privatize this crown or any other crown.
Privatizing liquor stores is a bad idea. It makes no more sense than if the provincial government were to change the legal drinking to 18, so as to keep in line with Manitoba and Alberta. Obviously they will not do that, the issue has been addressed before and most agree it's fine the way it is. Keep existing Crown-controlled and operated liquor stores the way they are and if there is opportunity to open others where it is deemed they would be profitable (unlikely in smaller, rural centres but communities that are close to or have recently reached city status, then yes) then consider that as well.
I think the government should not be in the business of selling liquor but I do agree the government should somewhat regulate it eg. number of establishments allowed in a community etc. I would like to see a wholesale pricing that is equal to everyone involved in selling alcohol - having the present off sale establishments denied wholesale pricing on spirits and wine while the

government is in direct competition with these establishments is not right.
The Sask party needs to drop its commitment to ideology. With softening resource prices, why would the government choose to give up needed revenue by privatizing liquor and instead see that revenue source go out of province where it does zero good for Saskatchewan citizens.
I think they should be privatized. The Government employees make more money and have benefits than the employees who sell the same products in our little rural store. Also rural is limited to the kinds of beer they can stock. BUT the main reason is I believe in free enterprise.
I believe the government has no more business selling beer than it does tires. I believe in the free market. I want to be left alone to make good or bad decisions and be responsible for the success or agonizing failure that may come.
Dislike the new private stores. Stop selling off the province to the highest bidder!
I like the way it is now!
I believe the pricing of alcohol in Saskatchewan, and Canada is absurd. You are making approximately 200% in the example shown between the mark up and the tax. When alcohol is purchased in the US you pay about 1/3 the price. I wonder why everyone that comes over the border brings back as much as possible? If I could have made a 200% profit in my business i could have retired at a very young age!Its great to have a monopoly! I realize money has to come from somewhere to run the province. Perhaps private business can make a go of it if their pricing was a little lower and the Gov't could make as much money without the overhead of running the stores? Hate to see the good paying jobs leave the community though...vicious circle?
Offer more products from other regions of Canada, particularly British Columbia. The availability of a wide variety of product can allow government liquor stores to be more competitive. A greater selection of product outweighs the price point offered by government liquor stores.
do not fix that which is not broken
So you've got 85% profits. How does giving that up allow you to "focus" on other areas? I want a mixed-system. I want a balance of selection and public benefit. I want a government that doesn't make decisions over ideological reasons.
I feel it would be beneficial to operate privatized liquor stores at reduced and competitive prices with our neighboring provinces and the total income that is generated will not be affected. Currently the majority of people I know purchase mass volumes of alcohol when they travel from Alberta as the price is really not comparable as we pay a major premium to drink in this province that i love
Privatizing will be a mistake. You will gain a one-time lump sum of money for the sale and then where will the money come from? More taxes. The almighty dollar becomes the benchmark and social responsibility will be a thing of the past. Decent-paying jobs will be lost to barely above minimum wage jobs, that also equals less tax dollars for the province. DO NOT SELL OFF THE CASH COW!!!!!
Private liquor store s will be hatder to regulate. That was evident with the private store in Saskatoon that was found not following the regs.
Keep liquor stores publicly owned, maintaining this source of good paying, secure jobs and use the profits for public healthcare.
Allow local alcohol producers to distribute directly to retail stores, same as they can distribute directly to restaurants and pubs. SLGA markup, mishandling, delays, and bureaucracy are a deterrent. Allow growlers of beer to be filled in retail stores, restaurants and pubs, not just onsite at local breweries and farmers markets. Alberta and Manitoba already allow/promote this in retail stores. Many other jurisdictions allow in pubs/restaurants. Allow all breweries (including brewpubs) to sell at farmers markets. Increase maximum annual production limit for microbreweries to 20,000 HL, same as Alberta. Institute more priority, support and promotion for local alcohol producers. Keeps more revenue and employment in the province, while also bringing in more tourism and raising overall culture.
I have been frustrated by the lack of varieties available from the SLGA Product Listing. For example, I enjoy trying different varieties of Growers cider, and whenever am in Alberta or BC I check on what flavours are locally available. I find it very strange that SK only has strawberry rhubarb available in the 6x330ml case. What happened to the standard Granny Smith or Extra Dry Apple? Never mind the many other variaties Growers provides..

I am in support of privatized liquor stores as long as they are able to select whatever product they wish to sell!
Please do not get rid of the way the liquor stores are run now. We certainly do not need a liquor outlet on every street corner like they do in Alberta.
We have had private stores through franchises for many, many years in small and rural areas with no real problems. Continue to collect tax on a warehouse basis and move on to more important community investments. I have been in both of the Saskatoon Coop and Sobey's stores and was impressed with the staff and their knowledge. I have heard that the service in the Saskatoon government stores has improved since the private openings. Amazing what competion can do.
I do not want to see liquor stores on every corner like in Alberta. Only large companies will be able to operate in the cities to compete. In rural areas prices of liquor will need to be quite a bit higher in order to make a profit. This is hardly fair to people who are forced to pay these prices. I find these questions very leading so the participant responds in favour of privatization. Government should maintain control as is.....NO PRIVATIZATION
Want to see lower prices and better selection
I disagree on any form of privatization. It is just another way so the rich can get wealthier and the middle class can get poorer.
Privatize liquor stores so we can'compete with prices in neighbouring provinces.
I totally disagree with selling alcohol privately retail
Privatization is foolish and a theft of our Common Wealth.
I believe alcohol should be sold in grocery stores. I do not drink much but it would be nice to be able to buy a bottle of wine easily when I am getting groceries without having to make an extra trip to a government liquor store. Let's leave selling liquor to store owners and use our resources and time to focus on what really matters and that's education and healthcare!
There is no reason why liquor retailing should be any different than tobacco, similar caps on age restrictions and penalties for failing to properly check age of customers.I would even strongly agree with the province getting out of wholesaling, and just collect the taxes.
I am strongly opposed to opening privately owned liquor stores. If more liquor stores are needed, the governed should increase the number of public liquor stores. Public liquor stores generate profit for our province to reinvest in roads, healthcare and other very important public services.
Revenues for government important. This money should at least go towards health care as you know there are costs related to alcoholism.
Iam satisfied with the status quo. My understanding of the offsale is that they are open and provide service when the govt stores are not open(evenings and sundays). I don't mind a blend of both govt and private stores but why do you want to end something that makes money. If you privatize all the crowns that make money then you leave the other crowns that lose money to be covered by taxpayers. That makes no sense.
Neither I nor my husband drink alcohol and I certainly do NOT appreciate our tax dollars going to pay $20/hr.(plus) to hand out liquor(which nobody NEEDS) when I hand out food(that people NEED) at a level 4 care home for less wages. I would definitely support private run liquor stores and let my tax dollars get the health care system in better shape.
The new private co-op store in Saskatoon is remarkable. A well executed facility run by an organization that knows how to retail properly. Our government doesn't belong in retail business.
I prefer the Quebec legislation, but more like Alberta as a minimum.
It's not the 1920's anymore. Time to get with the times.
The overall selection at the Swift Current LBS is terrible. The product is continually changing, which isn't a bad thing, but it sucks when you find a new favorite, only to discover it's been discontinued next month
Keep things as they are with a mix between Govt owned and private
Gov't stores are places that are a source of pretty good jobs for many people in this Province and I am in favour of that .. not sure private stores would do the same (probably not - pay and benefits would likely be much less and I don't agree they should be just so the private owners can make big bucks at the expense of employees!) Gov't stores are efficiently run now and I see no reason (other than right wing political philosophy) that they should change the way things are now. Small towns are allowed to have minor outlets which is ok along with off-sale at local hotels. If more stores are needed then the gov't should invest in

them themselves thus providing more jobs and receiving the benefit of sale profits instead of giving profits away to private owners!
The Saskatchewan Government should invest revenue in more efficient and better health care rather than investing back into government liquor stores.
The government should back out of liquor sales and allow the grossly inflated prices to come down. The wages of liquor store employees are also ridiculously high, compared to people in similar, non-government positions. I support the Alberta-style fully private system.
Get with the times.
The government run liquor stores make money for the province. Selling off liquor stores decreases the amount of future revenue available while sending the profits to private vendors that are not necessarily residents of Saskatchewan.
The big thing for everyone is not being able to get reasonably priced liquor like privatized provinces and USA. Competition is a good thing in business and when the gov't monopolizes that people will make their own or purchase outside a lot of the time.
We have two children that live in Alta and neither one says that the system there is better. I think we as a prov. have to look real hard at what benefits it would bring to the people of this prov. if there was a switch to any other system based solely on free enterprising thinking. In the end we the people are the bosses not you the politicians what ever your political strips are.
Went on line to review 2013 financial. Spent 40 years in the private sector and keep thinking that we are the share holders in this corp. and recieve the benifit of the tax and wholesale\retail profit. I could not imagine that the national corp that I was with would rush headlong into giving away 1% let alone 15 to 20% of their revenue. The minimal employee head count compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars generated is excellent compared to a lot of private companies. If this is about politicial beliefs,and not about how to improve the lives of Sask residents and their tax burden, then I may have wasted my vote last election and I will be stopping around my MLA's office to follow up on this. I live,work,purchase and pay tax here. I also vote here, every election even when I knew it was like shouting in the wind!
You don't know what you got til it's gone. Privatization would be a financial mistake let alone the social nightmare. Private stores think a sale is a sale whereas a government owned store has trained staff to deal with intoxicated patrons making sure they do not get served just to make a buck. Government stores have well trained staff who have a moral obligation to not serve under age patrons. You will not get that consistent quality of service in a private store. I have visited your big wonderful Sobeys liquor store in Saskatoon. I was very disappointed with the lack of customer service. We were in there for 20 minutes and never were approached by any of the staff.That never happens in Government liquor stores where the staff is friendly and knowledgable.
I believe all government liquor stores that can consistently maintain a net profit should stay in business, and more operated if profit is possible. Any net profit can and should support other programs in the province such as health care, highways, etc. I support and will continue to shop at government owned liquor stores, even if the prices are higher than other retail settings. The set price of alcoholic beverages, even if higher, is acceptable with profits being placed back into the economy.
Raise the age to 21, lower provincial profit on alcohol, lower price reduces crime, Its statistically proven.Make every politician pay back 10% of their alcohol consumption. GOLDEN.
The terms "retail" and "government" do not belong together. This concept is outdated. Let the market decide and get out of the business altogether. Go ahead and tax it if you must, but quit paying high level wages/pensions to what amounts to store clerks.
We love our coop liquor store in Saskatoon. Since opening it is the only store we go to.
I could not care less about if the store I buy my li
keep all liquor stores public government run.....making the liquor stores private will only make it easier for minors to get booze, will have more people drinking becoming alcoholics if the booze is cheaper putting a higher strain on our health care system to take care of them, and how many gov employees will be unemployed which will end up on putting them on unemployment. big companies like Sobeys will get richer while the profit they make and pocket could of been used for our hospitals, parks, police, schools .. keep store public
The government's priority from liquor retailing should be maintaining and growing revenue while maintaining good fulltime jobs that support Sask. Families. Some of the survey questions are unfair because they assume building government liquor stores takes money from spending

priorities like roads and schools when in fact the revenue from the stores help pay for these priorites.
we have been doing our liquor purchases more often at off sale outlets now that the liquor board has been phasing out cases of 24 bottles. we don't always buy large but it is frustrating that they don't carry it in their selection anymore. we were told it was because they want to phase out bottles entirely to force cans which are cheaper to recycle. i don't believe it is that reason and think they would rather charge more for a person to buy two cases of 12 than to sell a case of 24 a few dollars cheaper. more money gained. the issue for the government is not losing control and safety over the purchase of alcohol but the loss of possible revenue by allowing consumers to shop elsewhere. even with taxes included they may lose revenue from simple mark up at the liquor boards as consumers may prefer to purchase with their groceries or at a cheaper private location.
Why destroy a good situation. Private liquor stores have no positive effect on Saskatchewan. With government run stores we have friendly knowledgable staff. We keep the under age from purchasing alcohol and don't serve intoxicated customers which is all safety to the public. There are thousands of people that would be losing their jobs they have worked so hard to be proud of. Destroying families and opening the book to minors being able to purchase alcohol and intoxication never being an issue has absolutely no benefits so private liquor stores are a very bad idea to everyone. People only possibly want them because they are under the false impression alcohol will be dirt cheap!!! FALSE FACTS!!!!!!!
I would prefer less availability of liquor not more. With Sask having the highest rate of driving intoxicated why would we even consider having more options. Private liquor stores will be only thinking of profit not the age of the people buying.
I have lived in other jurisdictions, including the USA. Saskatchewan liquor laws and government stores are embarrassing. Consumer choice should rule. Consumers would be much happier with the government if it stayed out of being in the middle of the transaction and controlling what we can drink. The wine selection in SLGA stores is a shame.
Keep the current system we have right now
I support the Saskatchewan Liquor Board. I truly believe government regulation of a Vice industry is incredibly important. The Private Sector may be more effective in pricing and production location/Variety, but the Private Sector will always be invested in Profits. There is no Social or Moral basis for Private Sector Liquor stores to follow. Private Industry is for Profit only, and will forever remain that way. Controlling Liquor via our Liquor Board is important, and the profits important to our province.
Keep liquor sales public and even expand number of public liquor stores.
Other jurisdictions offer liquor in or beside grocery stores with no problem. Alberta is a good example. If you go to other countries you find beer, wine and spirits readily available in grocery stores and I do not believe they have worse social problems due to that. I am thinking of France, Finland, USA that come readily to mind.
More privatization! MORE! MOAAAAAR!!
Leave well enough alone.
I am in total favour of Alberta style liquor retailing in Saskatchewan.
We as Saskatchewan people need to keep our government and crowns the way they are for the good to our future. Selling them of is wrong and will be in the long term absolutely a failure and cost the people more in taxes or other forms to make back all the losses of that government income!
I spoke to a private liquor retailer in Edmonton and he told me that he, his wife and their children all had to work in order to be able to provide a roof over their head and food for their table. He said they are worse off than before they got into the business. There is too much competition for anyone to make a decent living. His store is on one street corner and directly across the street on the opposite corner is another store. He said he and the other store owner compared notes and found out that they were as badly off as his family is. They can't afford to hire anyone and in order for them to maintain their sanity family members had to spell each other off and this prevents the children from pursuing careers of their own. I found this to be very sad and hence my answers to your survey reflect what I heard from someone in the business in Alberta. I fear for people who can't put away any savings for their retirement. This will force people to work until passing - what a sorrowfully awful future to look forward to! I strongly believe that maintaining Government Liquor Stores must be preserved so that working people can earn a living wage, besides there are plenty of outlets now and we certainly don't need more access to alcohol. Our province is already struggling with alcoholism and families in destitution because of easy access to alcohol. Providing more easy access to alcohol by an act of Government would be ignoring a current problem and adding fuel to the problem creating a vicious cycle of poverty, FASD and FAS. Let's try harder to reduce this dreadful situation instead of indirectly encouraging it. The Government must create an environment where people may thrive instead of worrying about providing more access to alcohol so that people slip more quickly into oblivion caused by consuming alcohol.
Government liquor stores provide good jobs with decent pay and benifits. Many other retail business stores, including grocery

stores and private liquor stores do not provide the same level of compensation to their employees.
Biggest concern is self righteous unions.
Privatization of all future retail outlets makes good sense. Current retail locations that are not profitable should be closed, or possibly allowed to privatize. Loss of government jobs shouldn't be a concern as displaced employees would have the option to avail their knowledge and experience in privately owned outlets replacing government owned outlets.
Keep as is
I appreciate the improved selection and refrigeration of private stores, but there is a clear bias to not "investing" in government liquor operation. There isn't really much of a mention of the income generated by operating liquor stores. If it's a worthwhile money-maker, it's a good investment.
The sale of liquor, and other previously owned Crown Corp products, should remain in the hands of the crown corps, rather than being privatized. The government who proposes the privatization of the crown corps will not only lose my vote, but my mothers, fathers, and husbands. Do not touch the crown corps.
This survey is skewed to provide the answers that the government seeks. The background info also skews the same way. Shame on you. I am completely 100% against privatizing liquor sales in the province. There is no more profitable business than liquor sales and for the government to be opening up this profit to corporations is completely wrong. Private companies would not be clamoring to get into the business if it wasn't a money maker. To be comparing Saskatchewan to other provinces is also wrong...if I wanted to live in other provinces, I'd live there. I am in favor of expanding the government retail system to provide more choices to consumers but not at the expense of government jobs and revenue to the province.
If Government run stores can't even install refrigeration units for cold beverages then they shouldn't be in the business of retailing.
Liquor should be treated like any other product. More competition and less regulation lowers prices and improves choice to consumers. Sale of liquor in Saskatchewan should resemble that of Arizona, USA.
The beer selection in government liquor stores is quite poor compared to other provinces and the US. I would support the expansion of selection in government stores over private stores, but that does not realistically seem like it will happen so I support private stores.
. I cost is the problem the government can lower it at will right now.
Time to step out of the dark ages.
Private liquor retailing is what I would like to see in Saskatchewan,the same as Alberta.
The current system is a cash cow for the government. It enables the government to direct profits to health care, seniors and other social needs. Keep things the way they are - don't give it away.
After having purchased licuor in Alberta many times, I find private stores disappointing. Generally, they are smaller and lack adequate product selection. Also, prices for the same items can vary greatly from one store to the next. The system that we have in place in Saskatchewan presently is the best of both worlds. Consistent pricing and selection with private stores offering a different experience for those consumers looking for more refined or specialty products. Private stores should only be built in new areas and the density of new stores should be limited.
Government should maintain its revenues through taxation, not through ownership where it becomes complicit in the social problems of alcohol. These issues should be addressed through education not through public ownership. What gives the government the right to set the selection of wines and alcohol I may purchase? Government has no competence to make that decision as is apparent from the quality of information offered by the government liquor board store staff. The choices available from private liquor offerings in other parts of the world are far more civilized than those available from saskatchewan government liquor board stores. In Austalia buying cheese and bread in a small store I can also buy wines that fit with the purchase. In Portugal in a small village grocery store I can buy thirty year old port. The list of better liquor sale service, choice and price from around the world is endless.
I would like to see the same system as Montana.
Fully support privatizing liquor retailing.
Taking away the cash flow from the employees of the government stores and putting it into a privet hands is a bad idea. The jobs would be replaced with minimum wage workers with out benefits and putting all the profit in to one privet persons hands.

Tell me the up side. All I see is a greater cost to the government.
Alberta Style - fully private retail system is the way we should go
I know many individuals that drive to alberta to buy beer because it is cheaper.
Privatization of liquor stores is an obscenity. Workers deserve a living wage for work. Workers deserve full time hours. The people of Saskatchewan deserve to have all profits for liquor sales to go toward public endeavours such as road repair, health care etc.
The most important is that a Government liquor store is, in my view, more likely to refuse a sale to a person who is aleady drunk. You need a new proofreader: 'franchise' Is misspelled as 'francise' on the frist screen. I can proofread: use me!
This is like any other government survey.....answers can be interpreted to swing either way. What's next to be privatized? will leave us in financial ruin when he is done, just to help private business make money. Did you see the latest food bank usage statistics? Maybe you should focus on why there are so many people using food banks in our province. Maybe putting alcohol on every street corner available 24-7 is not what what we need right now. I haven't heard Brad on the radio lately bragging about how we are a "have province" lately....first we had money to burn...now things are tight....what a Joke. Why bother with a survey you already know what you want to do. Oh yeah cause when things go bad you can blame the public. You are supposed to make the decisions and stand by the outcome. Grow some!
Which ever direction the Government goes I want it to be the direction that makes the most revenue for the Government.
Saskatchewan should really consider keeping up with the times and getting rid of its backwards convoluted laws. This is the only province Ive ever lived in that has left me feeling perturbed at times and almost sometimes acts as a hinderance to the freedoms such as alcohol purchases that I would want to partake in. Limited availability of one of the few things that keeps people sane in this province has got to stop. No more limited liquor board hours resulting in monopoly on the behalf of offsales to set whatever ridiculous pricing they want.
More selection and lower price.
should be privatized for better prices and we should have a greater selection of types of liquor in a specific area..eg: more kinds of black rum..better selection of single malt scotches...
Leave it the way it is
I think Saskatchewan has a great opportunity to reform liquor retailing in the province in a progressive way. A true opportunity to lead the country as retailers and educators on this industry exists. As a professional working in a premier capacity in this industry internationally, there is a cautious way to proceed but a great opportunity for public interest. I would be happy to discuss my ideas further should anyone have any interest in my detailed thoughts. I manage in London,UK, widely celebrated, and awarded, as the best wine retail experience in the world. ( ) I am from Saskatoon, with my family still living there, and also owning property in the city. I regularly return to the city to conduct private wine tastings for residents of the province.
Profits from liquor stores can go toward repairing roads, schools(not P3's), better Hospitals(forget lean concept)...etc.
There should only private liquor stores in Saskatchewan. Period. The government owned store have terrible service and no product knowledge and the selection is terrible
I don't see the purpose of privatizing when government is going to control price! Do it right once and get out of the liquor industry.
Mr Klein proved in Alberta that the private model works. More selection, more competitive prices, more jobs and government revenue. The governments mark up could actually go down and the revenue from the sale of liquor would go up due to increased selection for the consumer. It's troubling to see Alberta restaurant prices in Saskatechwan stores. This market is ready for a better consumer experience. That means lower prices and more selection. Let the market decide where and when retail outlets are open.

Private stores are a very good option. Governments should not be in the retail business. SLGA should be a regulatory agency and ensure that the rules are followed and the taxes are collected.
stop the price gouging...higher prices for social reasons in absurd...if that was the case than all prices would be the same, no matter the brand!!!!
Keep pricing down. Privatization seems to have an affect of higher prices when applied fully. I like what you are doing, slow and steady , keep them to a minimum.
I think liquor sale should NOT be regulated by the government.
No questions regarding the youth who would likely be able to buy from non government services much more easily. Increased problems for policing, driving and drinking which we lead the nation in. Insurance rates, violence all likely to increase.
I grew up in a small town in Alberta with 3 dedicated liquor stores and 2 offsales. It seemed strange when I moved to Saskatoon when I had to drive for 15 min to reach a liquor store and they had such limited hours. I am glad to see Saskatchewan shifting to increase accessibility.
Private liquor store owners will just follow the Sask. Party practice of . They will sell their booze slightly lower than the SLB stores and pay their employees a fraction of the wage of SLB workers. This will, in turn, create a huge benefit to the private dealers by getting more customers than the SLB. This would have the SLB loosing money, which our tax dollars will have to boost. And it'll all snowball from their, in the end, (what the Sask Party stands for) the rich get richer, and the poor get poorer.
Liquor retailing should remain in the purview of the people of Saskatchewan (government). The suggestion that by getting out of liquor retailing the government would have more resources for education and healthcare is so misleading that it makes me question the motives of the people who put it in this survey. Operating the liquor retailing business in Saskatchewan is revenue positive for the people of the province, so don't pretend otherwise. Let's base future actions on what's best for the citizens of the province, not ideology.
The Alberta Taxpayers association estimates the Alberta Government would have taken in approximately 3/4 of a BILLION Dollars more if liquor sales had stayed government owned. The Saskatchewan Government is totally delusional if they think they will receive as much or more money by privatizing stores. This government will be losing millions of dollars a year with private stores. This government is using totally unreasonable and illogical political ideology to justify a privatizing agenda. Privatizing is destroying this province. I have been in several private stores in Alberta and the selection is terrible. Lloydminster is an excellent example. There used to be one large government store where you could find anything you were looking for. Now there are approximately 20 small outlets, all with a very limited selection. There are 4 or 5 products I used to purchase in the government store which I have been unable to find in any of the private stores. They do not have the space to carry anything but the most popular products.
This is simply another product which happens to be regulated. Currently tobacco is regulated but sold privately. Cars are regulated but sold privately. Pharmaceuticals are regulated but sold privately. What is so special about alcohol that the government needs to be the retailer of the product?
You said that you were going to operate a private/public system similar to BC. Then this comes out? Why are you changing the rhetoric? Seems like a government that lacks direction and has a mandate to make mistakes...again... ...oops Mr.Wall!!!
As a society we do not need cheaper or more readily available liquor. A private store that sells ONLY the very expensive or rare products some wealthy people might be interested in would be okay, but we do not need people driving drunk to the local convenience store at midnight to "pick up" because they know it is open and available. I feel is is just another attempt by the government to get rid of unionized jobs and give more profit to large businesses. Why would we sell the goose that regularly lays golden eggs? Especially in a time when gov't oil revenues seem like they might be on their way into the "tank".
I am a federal employee and I am for keeping liquor stores gov't run. I feel an employee trained is more knowledgable than any private person would be. Also the money the gov't make off the sales goes to things needed. Even with regulations there will be a fluctuation in pricing and service from a private retailer. I believe keeping it with the gov't will b safer and smarter.
Look to Alberta as a guideline, they have developed a system that seems to be woking just fine.
I believe this will move Saskatchewan away from the nanny mind set regarding liquor regulations.
I think the way the some of the questions are worded is very misleading.
In Alberta, the problem started with the government employees wanting more and more money so that the profit was going down. Here, so far, there doesn't seem to be that problem. You can't allow too many private stores and still keep the

government ones...the profit will go way down. I like our government ones. They have selection and stock!
The government keeps talking about all the money spent building liquor stores that could be spent somewhere else. At the very least it's misleading or a lie. The government doesn't build liquor stores, they lease them. With private liquor stores the overall average price of booze will not go down. The question I asked myself is; do I want Sobeys to fill their pockets or do I want working class people to have a decent paying job that they can raise families on working at a SLG store?
Private stores would help reduce high staff wages and pension plans
Costco will have cheap liquor....in TWO cities. The rest of the province will be subjected to greedy private operators. SLGA sells a 24 pack of Pilsner cans for $39.99. The local "private" retailer sells it for $50.75. Figure it out. Brad Wall is delusional in believing HIS party is responsible for the "boom" of this province. It would have happened irregardless of who was in power....too bad Mr Wall doesn't realize that. Also, the SLGA stores don't sell to minors....the local off sales don't ID their customers because they want/need the sale. Keep things the way they are.
I live in central Saskatchewan and work in the oil patch around Bonnyville, AB. The small retailer (local hotel) in Saskatchewan has been great, bringing in product specifically for me. Prices are better for spirits in Alberta (my favorite Scotch is $125 in Sask and $99 in Alberta). If Saskatchewan could add the private industry with the ensuing competition in pricing that Alberta has, it would make the Saskatchewan experience much better.
I am a strong supporter of government run liquor stores. This is one of the few jobs for women in rural areas that pay well. We are often told that women are important, but actions speak louder than words. Taking away safe, well paying jobs sends a strong message that women are not a priority. Also a worker making a decent wage pays taxes back to the province as well as having more money to spend locally. If a woman has to work at a private liquor store for minimum wage there is a loss to the province and the local economy. I often hear that we would have greater selection if it were private. In Lloydminster there is at least 20 private stores on the Alberta side and one on the Saskatchewan side. The prices in the SK store are competitive and have a great selection as well as offering excellent customer service. The only private places that would be able to offer a large selection are the big chains like Sobeys. Their money does not stay in the province as their headquarters are usually out of province or out of country and they most likely get a tax exemption from the government. Small retailers would be unable to bring in the large selections and would only offer the popular items that Saskatchewan govt carries anyway. Also, I take issue with this survey. It is poorly constructed and worded to either confuse people or it implies that investing in the liquor stores "takes away" from health care. The profits from the liquor store go to the province that can be then spent on health care. Are you implying that SLGA is debt ridden and costing the government money? This is contrary to public record that SLGA consistently makes a profit. Privatizing gives nothing back to the province but less quality, poorer wages and less worker protection.
I wish that your questions were not so biased, You have obviously already decided to give your buddies more money in the form of allowing them to sell booze.
Do not privatize!!
I would like to see government out of retailing totally.
i welcome the alberta style
Plain and simple...DO NOT PRIVATIZE LIQUOR STORES OR ANY OTHER CROWNS
If the revenue from liquor stores is lost it would be a shame considering all the harm liquor still does in our communities. The funds provided by public liquor stores offsets the burden it places on our healthcare system.
We are losing out on sales to Alberta. Our prices are too high and there are never "sales". If the government doesn't give the private stores the ability to set their prices then what's the point?
I fully support the current system. A mix of public, private, franchises and off sales. I don't agree with the Alberta model where there are lots of small private liquor vendors. I like our current model where we have some good sized private stores in suburban areas. And public stores in areas such as downtown, 8th Street, Lawson Mall in Saskatoon. We already have a significant problem with alcohol related crime. If we make it even more accessible that will only rise. It's alcohol! I think if we really want it we can make an effort to go to a proper liquor store to get it.
It would be great to be able to get liquor at the place where you buy your groceries. I feel the wages for the gov't liquor stores is too much, which fuels the price of the liquor being sold. More competitive pricing should be allowed through private business.
I have not seen any savings in my pocket from the goverment selling off any of the goverment bussiness. so why are we selling off sask goverment companies?
Generally speaking - I think Saskatchewan has an old/archaic outlook on its liquor laws. The other provinces with much more relaxed laws and with more private stores (which helps in keeping costs down) don't have any of the "social" issues that we

seem to think are going to devastate our province if we change.
SLBS is a great service. It provides a great product while generating profit and good quality jobs for our citizens. I do not feel that the province should support the replacement of these jobs with minimum wage no benefit jobs. We are well served with the stores we have now. Also we do not need to encourage more consumption with the placing of outlets in grocery store and gas stations as in other provinces. We are not like other provinces! We need to promote responsible consumption not encourage more consumption with enhanced accessibility. I am not nor never have been employed by SLBS nor either have any of my extended family been employed by SLBS. Please keep our Crowns intact.
Although I am liberal politically (even a social democrat), I am strongly opposed to the government selling drugs, including alcohol. Regulate, yes. Tax, yes. But sell, no.
This is the just about the worst survey I have ever participated in. Instead of gathering data it is designed to guide the participant towards a pre-determined conclusion. There is zero validity in this survey, but it is pretty much what I expect from this government. I would imagine that non-supportive data will just be thrown out anyway. This isn't the Saskatchewan I know and love.
Would LOVE To see a private liquor store in Evergreen!!!
I do not support privatization of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan, such as Sobeys (Saskatoon).
In my opinion the purpose of government is to govern and regulate society. Government should never run any business. Therefore the sooner all crown corporations are privatized the better.
The private model resulted in numerous small liquor stores in Alberta where selection is poor and prices are higher and a few large liquor stores like Superstore where prices are lower but where selection is also limited. I am in favour of continuing current policy of maintaining government stores and new stores can be private.
I know a lot of people go to Alberta or the States to get their alcohol so I think if the price of alcohol was cheaper here then in the end we would make more money because people would get their alcohol here.
leave it as Status quo. there are other things that should be dealt with. roads,hospital waiting lists, the news report this morning about all the people using food banks.
I think it is time for the government to divest itself from liquor sales. As far as I am concerned purchasing liquor is the same as purchasing food and clothing. Not that it is a necessity, but rather it is just another purchase that we choose to make or not. As far as a moral obligation, the government is not there to dictate how we live our lives.
I think it is very important NOT to privatize our crown corporations.
System seems OK as it is.
Limit the amount of private retail stores. Alcohol is taxed way too heavily and it should not be used to raise taxes to fund other programs. That is a hidden tax and does no one any good. Let those programs fund themselves out in the open in a transparent manner.
For my taste, the selection of alcohol products is adequate in existing stores. I agree with private outlets where population numbers does not justify a gov't outlet. I would be worthwhile to survey AB outlets to get an appreciation of employee income vs cost of living. The opportunity for an adequate, stable income of Sask population is important regardless of business entity.
I'm glad that you have opened the conversation, however I would like to see more movement on this than a survey that's slated to last over a year. As a born Albertan, and now a full fledged resident of Saskatchewan, I have had the pleasure of experiencing the positive change our economy has seen under the Saskatchewan Party; the growth,the diversity and the opportunity. We are (albeit slowly) moving toward a more free market structure and I think liquor is one area that would benefit from this. I live in Warman, so access to alcohol is limited at best - one franchise and one offsale. I think there is abundant opportunity for a privatized store here, which would support the surrounding trade area. I'd love the opportunity to chat about this more with my MLA, or the minister in charge of pushing this initiative forward; because it is only a matter of time before this moves forward. Regards,

option 3 is were my support would be.
I will support whichever store offers me the best selection of different beers and wines. The slga stores are extremely behind in offering a great selection of craft beer, and very little that it's refrigerated. This is where the private locations are my preferred locations. Price it's also important, but selection is the most important factor for me.
We can be so backwards sometimes. we really need to get with the times with our liquor laws in this province.
The Govt can easily maintain their revenue because the Govt controls the wholesale market. If the Govt gets out of selling to the end user and simply supplies the private retailer they will make the same if not more money and the customers will benefit for we will have better selection and service.
I believe that alcohol kills more people than tobacco. More retailers and easier access to alcohol would up the number of deaths. Rarely does a cigarette kill more than one person all at once. As the cost of alcohol wouldnt change much leave the stores government owned and change what's available etc.
Alberta system still sends you to a separate store. Go to Europe, U.S., Mexico, and more and you purchase alcohol like other consumer items. Be AHEAD of the curve, allow alcohols ales in the supermarket.
I do not think that privatizing liquor stores is a good idea. Not sure why the government likes to have the profit's leave and have more low paying job's in the community. Really is a disconnect. I'm sure we could hire people to run the government cheaper then the elected officials, maybe we should consider"privatizing" this as well? We could have the profit's go for "other" thing's. Totally nonsensical in a province where we are basically having a race to the bottom for good paying job's with pensions.
I like the Alberta model
I'm ok with the current mix of private/public and would be willing to even see a small expansion of private, but I'm concerned a full privatization would cut into government revenue. SLGA is the biggest cash transfer to the government provided by all the crowns and it would be bad for all of Saskatchewan if that went down.
If liquor sales gets slowly privatized on a selective basis, then the impact of private liquor sales can't be reliably measured because this isn't a free market.
I strongly disagree with the further privatization of liquor stores in Saskatchewan. Profits should go to the province to fund other services rather than private individuals and companies.
The government doesn't sell any other product. Why should it sell liquor? The social harms aspect is immaterial. Government doesn't retail cigarettes so why should it retail alcohol?
Let's get out of the stone age. We aren't a bunch of animals that are going to break out into anarchy with cheaper booze prices. Also I dont think our tax dollars should be paying for the government liquor store workers high wages to stock shelves and run the till. It's all of our tax dollars paying these people. If this was your own business would you really want to pay someone these ridiculous wages? I think not. It's not a smart business choice and the government has us all hostage to these high prices due to the wages they have set.
Government does not need to be and should not be in the retail liquor business. Let's stop being prudes and join the rest of the world in this regard. If we learned anything from the days of Prohibition in the US, it is that liquor should not be so "controlled".
It's time for the government to treat its citizens as adults.
I would not want taxes (property or otherwise) to go up if the private sector starts selling more liquor. It is important for the government to make money from liquor sales so they are able to put it towards other things such as health. How much would the payout cost for all the employees be if they are to lose their jobs? How much does it cost to keep the current system going? It is very hard to pick one system over the other as you do not give any financial impact numbers. I do not want to see liquor sold outside of liquor stores as this would most likely create more under age drinking. I also think that cigarettes and cigars should only be sold in liquor stores as many under aged children are able to obtain cigarettes easily.
Typical government, claim they have no plans to privatize anything when they are campaigning and then go ahead and do it when they get elected. Privatization does not benefit pricing to the consumer. When I was a teenager the liquor in AB was always cheaper than SK this was before they privatized their liquor stores. Now liquor in AB is equal or more expensive than SK. The same will happen in SK when stores are privatized.....and yes I say when because I know you have already decided to move forward with it! Disgusted!!

I would like to see Saskatchewan follow in Alberta's footsteps.
The government should not have a role in policing the sale of alcohol other than to ensure stores are not selling to minors. We are no longer in a prohibition era, let's get into this century and allow adults to make their own choices. "Sin tax" needs to be removed...this is not a deterrent to those who are being targeted and just punish responsible adults with excessive prices. Dependency issues must be fought through proper social programming, not price inflation. Definitely want to see local producers have a chance to market their product and sell it directly to consumers. Also want to see all the barriers to inter-provincial trade removed completely on alcohol.
Europe is a great example of how I would like liquor retailing in Saskatchewan to become.
Cost is too high compared to Alberta and U.S.
Government regulated store need to come down in pricing. Be more comparable to Alberta or the USA for example
Please keep our liquor store employees employed. They earn a decent living, they can afford to raise a family, and they spend their money in the communities they earn it in. If you choose to sell these Liquor Stores, you will be turning these jobs into part-time low wage jobs, and the workers will have to work two or three jobs to make ends meet. Please keep the money in our communities. I am totally ok with any store selling in the same fashion as the off-sale stores.
I think sk should start giving the option to grocer to sell alcool in their store . With a permit of course and regulation .
I can buy a bottle of wine in the states for 3-6.00. That same bottle of wine costs 21.00 here. That is even when the dollar is doing well. Ridiculous. When the supporters of government run liquor stores say that the revenue will no longer be in the government's coffers please point out to them the millions of dollars you make off the tax on booze. Ridiculous Why on earth does the government get to decide what wine is available in the province. That is beyond ridiculous
I'm all for privatisation of liquor sales, but I strongly believe that the contracts should go to locally owned businesses, rather than national or international corporate stores. The profits should stay in Saskatchewan, for the benefit of Saskatchewan people.
I think the survey had extremely leading questions to "get the answers" the Sask Party wants to hear. Where is pre-survey info that explains how much revenue is currently generated by the LBS and how this money is allocated to other sectors? How much revenue does the government suggest will be generated with privatization? There are still many questions that the government website failed to address. I am actually quite miffed as to why privitization of LBS is seen as a platform issue. Seriously!?!
There have been many improvements to government owned stores in recent years. I believe the majority including improved selection, price, store layouts, refrigeration etc, are mostly the result of the threat of private competition. Private stores are still too restricted in what they can stock and what they can charge, that should be a market decision not a regulatory one. Private stores meet the needs of an evolving market government stores, for the most part, do not. I don't feel there is any reason to close government stores but I don't agree with opening new ones either. The Market will dictate, over time, what role each of the current choices will provide. If someone feels they can make a living opening a Whiskey only store in Pumphandle Sk they should be allowed to try it....liquor taxes are collected, property taxes paid... no harm no foul. I agree with Government distribution but also with limited ability to buy direct from smaller, mainly Canadian, producers for wine, beer and spirits. Local governments/ communities should have a say in availability, hours, locations etc. if they choose to restrict it for some reason that should be their prerogative.
Stop monopoly. Competition is great for business owners and for the public. We should follow Alberta's model of liquor sales. The government can keep some regulations and some revenue, but they do not need to be in the liquor business.
From what I see travelling to different countries and provinces, it seems very unfair when the pricing of alcohol in Sask is so highly priced/taxed. Privatization means the owner should be one determining the prices not the government. I would rather spend the money in Sask but when I do a price comparison on the purchase of alcohol by travelling elsewhere, I will land up making a road trip and a holiday with the difference in money. I don't believe that the gov't needs to have a 130% + markup on alcohol.
The ideal system would be one in which there was increased selection, lower prices generally but established minimums, continued revenue for the provincial government, and elimination of money-losing government stores. Figure it out!
Gov shouldn't be in the business of creating government jobs to sell liquor in the SGEU store.
i what choice good price privet stores should be able to buy booze at the same price that governor store buy it at
Being in a rural community I feel that the costs of alcohol will rise if it becomes a privately owned business here. Which might be a good thing in general making it tougher for some people to buy it; but on the other hand all that this would cause would be

those who could not afford it would steal from others in the community to make sure they had the monies to purchase alcohol. I think it should be left as it is and that the government should look at making more of the essentials of life more affordable to people of the north. The cost of food is rising so much that families here are not knowing what to do when they shop, they can not afford to feed their families. Why change something that isn't broken!
It just doesn't make sense to continue government run liquor stores. The employees range from disinterested to downright rude. Their wages, benefits and pensions are costing the government money. I hate to say it, but it almost creates a divide: why should someone doing the same job but in a more dangerous situation at an offsale in Regina deserve less pay, benefits, etc. than someone working at a government run offsale in the same city? Our province needs to operate like Alberta's in regard to offsale. I want to be able to buy a case of expensive wine at Costco and save money.
Fully privatize the industry. The government does not have to be in the retail business.
I believe government regulation is essential to ensure revenue from alcohol sales benefit our communities and that we are better able to regulate the availability and mitigate the harmful social impacts that come with alcohol consumption.
I see all the time on tv that the biggest push back is from the unions, not the average citizen .
Allow more private liquor stores and the selling of liquor in grocery stores. Government run liquor stores need a wider selection of alcohol. For example, beers and spirits that ate available in the United States should be sold here
I don't necessarily believe that price can be directly responsible for social harm when it comes to alcohol consumption. I compare it to the saying "guns don't kill people, people kill people". We need to focus more on how people's values are being established (ie: children)through better social programs rather than trying to use hot button topics as scapegoats. The idea that making liquor cost more to save society from itself implies that only poor people are prone to getting drunk and making bad decisions/harming themselves or others, which is absolutely not true. As far as whether government should continue to operate retail stores, I believe that economically viable stores should stay open and in government control until such time as they are no longer viable. It is well known that by nature, government operations simply cost more to operate because of inherent inefficiencies that are, for a number of reasons, part and parcel with government bodies. Beaurocracy and unionization are two good examples of why government stores cost more to operate than they should. A lack of financial accountability and feeling of ownership are another two big reasons - why be worried about the bottom line when there's a big reserve to pull extra funds from when needed? Those using the budgets inefficiently rarely ever feel connected to the fact that those are their own tax dollars that they are nickel and diming away. Private companies know how to operate efficiently while retaining good employees. Government should be more involved in governing liquor sales, not operating them.
This issue should not be consuming was much time and energy in addition to cost in government resources to be able to decide what to do. In my mind, yes continue to operate the government stores which have proven to be very profitable and ensure that they remain so by keeping them up. That being said we as a province need to move to relax liquor regulations and begin to have any reputable stores sell liquor to the public. There is no reason why in this day and age that we cannot purchase liquor at a grocery store of my choosing. I do however believe that unless we get government out of the distribution side of the business we as consumers will never really see any major benefits other than having motte locations to purchase liquor. Why is it that government needs to be the sole control of distribution of liquor? What our government is offering is like offering us one new shoe. Yes it we are somewhat better off, however would it ever make sense to only put one new shoe on??
The current policy regarding retail pricing policy in Saskatchewan should be changed to the policy in Alberta. Stores in Calgary from the checking I've done may have products from 30 to 40% cheaper to 25% more expensive than in Saskatchewan. The market place should determine which pricing policy will succeed and ultimately which stores stay open.
Keep the SLGA public!!! A stupid idea to give taxpayer income to private pockets Mr Wall... Er
I think no matter how expensive booze is people who create public risk will find a way to get it.
I do not want to see increasing privatization. Simply visit, for example, Grand Prairie, Alberta, and see how the streets are lined with private establishments with names such as "Honest Ed's Cheap Booze," or "Bill's Discount Beer," and ask yourself if this is the kind of environment you'd want your kids to live in. It's not for me. Besides, the SLGA is a profitable venture; couching the situation otherwise by stating you could invest the money elsewhere is not, frankly, honest, in my opinion. Thank you for your interest. p.s. - some of your survey questions appear designed to skew results.
get out of the retail business, and let the private sector operate it.
I believe we should keep the stores government owned. If we privatize now, we make some quick money. But what happens to the lost revenue in the long run? Also, what happens to the hundreds of employees currently employed by SLGA? These employees are always knowledgeable when I have questions about different products. If you go into an off sale, you have some

grubby looking fellow, locked in a glass enclosure. You have to slip the money through a hole in the glass. No, that is definitely not the experience I want when purchasing liquor. I have visited Alberta with their private stores too...same grubby person, just a different province. When will privatization stop? We can't continue to rely on the volatile oil and gas industry. Residents of our province will always need a phone (Sasktel), insurance (SGI), power (SaskPower), energy (Saskenergy)....We need to be able to sustain our province in the long run....not only the short term!

The options as listed in the the Leader Post are loaded towards privatization. Option 5 states "selection largely determined by government". Any time I wanted something not carried it was ordered by the liquor stores, if available. Sask has a small population and no private or public liquor store can carry everything. The private stores I have been in in Alberta and BC have been disgusting holes in the wall, some even have the doors locked so I had to be buzzed in and buzzed out. Also I found the service, attitude and appearance of the employees at the private stores to be far below the SLGA stores. The selection was small and the prices were at least as much as Sask. Some change is needed to the existing system, such as easing of regulation so micro breweries and small distillers can expand. Another change appreciated would be kiosks in grocery stores. If Sask has a policy of controlling alcohol related social problems by high prices, how could private stores sell cheaper? I understand the UK is completely privatized but alcohol is as least as much as here. They also control social problems by price. Also how is the local economy helped by allowing places like Costco to export the profits out of province and country?

Having been too and lived in different areas of Canada, I feel the government is too focused on the profit in Saskatchewan over liquor sales. Quebec for example, a 24 case of beer is almost half the price of Saskatchewan and we picked it up at a grocery store. I like Convenience and affordability. I mean not one to drink much but if I do, I don't want to spend my weekend budget just on a case of beer. I would like to spend some of that on a meal out.

Consider making the legal drinking age to 21, more and more people are still in high school at 19 and are buying booze for their under aged friends. Plus they are going to the bars more and more who are under aged with fake ID. Make the laws more stiffer if caught etc. Need more accountability on these places who get caught. Most full license drivers are now 19-20, they are still a risk of driving after some drinks. This puts use sober and non- drinkers more st risk of being killed. Invest in later bus times or bus points of locations to drop people off at so they can walk home from those points etc. Thank you for your time.

The government makes more than enough money in taxes on booze,they don't have to build buildings to get more revenue.

Just PRIVATIZE!!!

I do not believe the government should be in ANY retail business. This is better left t the private sector where if a product will sell there will be competition in retailing. If the product will not sell why are we propping it up with tax payers monies.

You talk a lot about revenue, but what are the profit projections given the two different models private/public. As a researcher, this survey is the most biased and LEADING survey I've seen in a while. Its full of double barrelled questions, a VERY leading dichotomous question with no option for comments. This survey, even thought it may be outsourced was very obviously influenced by the government.

Keep liquor stores public.

Having travelled to other places, provinces and countries where liquor is less regulated by government, it still strikes me as archaic that SK liquor is only able to be purchased via strict government controls.

Revenue generated by liquor is of utmost importance, but that does not mean the government needs to be involved in the retailing of liquor, allow a competitive market. A private retail system, with the government as the wholesaler, is the best option. THere should be flexibility to have beer and wine in grocery stores/small businesses.

In my experience, limiting the avaialability does not equal limiting consumption. One has to only drive around the grid roads of "dry" towns to see that the decision to severely limit alchohol in a community just drives the habit to unsafe places (vehicles).

I also do not agree that a person has to be a government worker to be responsible for selling alcohol. When a persons livelihood is on the line they tend to follow the requirements. In general, bar and eating establishments properly check identification of patrons, why would a private liquor vendor be any different.

Publicly operated liquor stores do not meet the needs of a growing, prosperous and discerning province. I strongly oppose continuing with the public operation of liquor stores. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

PRIVATE RETAILING ALL THE WAY!

In the UK private liquor stores (supermarkets) use alcohol as a major loss leader and easily available. This has led to widespread abuse and underage drinking. I feel that Saskatchewan has got "it" about right in its current regulations and outlets.

Only exception. I find the active promotion of alcohol samples in government liquor stores to dangerously support drinking and driving. Government should be actively discouraging this activity- accidents and death rates from drunk drivers is already far too high- with resulting avoidable costs to the health service (and taxpayers).

If the liquor stores go public...where is the revenue that existing government liquor generate going to come from????

Government should focus more on providing living wages for the people of Saskatchewan instead of profits for private sector. Both are important but complete privatization will remove good paying jobs from rural communities (which benefit many through purchasing and taxation) and send more of our money out of the province as profit for non resident businesses (ie- sobey's)
I believe government run liquor stores should remain as they are. There would be a significant loss of jobs if this were to change and the revenue from these government run stores is important. Private is not necessarily better by any means.
Government needs to be out of the liquor business. Put this in the Ganda of the private sector. Collect your taxes and leave it at that.
I strongly agree that the government should not be in the liquor business. No there won't be any jobs that pay $30 an hour to stock shelves, but there will be 3 times as many jobs at $20 an hour in the private sector. I was in Alberta during the transistion from government stores to the private sector and like any other province or state, they've never regret making the transistion. The consumer will definitely benefit from this also by having better selection, price and service. The government will also benefit by like mentioned,investing in other important sectors like, healthcare or education or roads. Also the government will make more money collecting tax then paying the exorbant wages we pay government employees and especially for stocking shelves and pushing buttons on a till. We can't lose by making the transition.....
keep liquor stores public
I support the privatization of sales however not certain we need them in grocery stores etc. I've witnessed the 10 AM crowd waiting to enter the liquor stores already intoxicated and don't think I'd like to see these same people wandering in my grocery store. With liquor stores and franchises there is ample opportunity to plan for liquor purchases.
1. I would like the government to continue collecting the same revenue from the sales of alcohol and re-investing it back in our province. 2. I find the prices at private stores in Alberta are actually more expensive but they offer cheaper options of far less quality. (e.g. A case of Saskatchewan's favorite beer Pilsner costs more in Alberta but they have endless varieties of cheap, foul-tasting beers which are popular for alcoholics and kids.) 3. The private stores I have visited in Alberta seem very seedy and shady. I would not want one of these stores in my town or area of residence. The level of professionalism and product knowledge is far higher at our Saskatchewan stores than the private stores I have been to.
Anyone who ever has bought alcohol in Alberta sees the value in privatized liquor stores. There is no variety in Saskatchewan and the prices are higher. It should not be controlled by the government since the government is doing such a terrible job meeting the needs of the customer. If it is privatized the owners will take an interest in having a better variety to meet the customers needs.
Privatization will happen eventually. I would suggest the govt take this opportunity to observe what's happens when the changes are made . You have other crowns now that will suffer very severely from this , whereas the liquor retail outlets will adjust relatively smoothly.
I recently visited Edmonton and made a stop at "Wine & Beyond". I had no idea what we were missing out on... we definitely need more businesses like this. Their selection and knowledge was unmatched by anything i've seen here in Sask
Long over due that the gov't get out of the retail sales of liquor. Let the private sector compete. It will be fine!!
Considering that all public liquor stores contribute money towards the government to spend on the province, there is no benefit to closing public stores. If public stores are closed the you would be increasing taxes to everyone to make up the difference in revenue. Maybe its time to start looking at other areas to better the province rather than privatization. You would cost many people jobs, mine one of them. I will be voting NDP come next election!
We don't have enough specialty wine and beer options and if you want to order anything specially from the slga the format to do so is completely ridiculous. There is no consistency, our system doesn't work with other places in the world. It's archaic and needs to be revamped, I'd love to do it for you. You make it so hard.
I like the fact that my government liquor store has different options that I don't believe a private will have due to the fact that profit comes first and they will bring in only what sells and what has the best profit.
I have two thoughts on the matter: 1) My government does not belong in retail. There is no need for a government to own/operate retail outlets. 2) Liquor does need to be heavily regulated. The private sector can do this (they do with tobacco products). The revenues from mark-up and taxes are needed. That being said, if overhead is lower, ie not paying gov union wages for a cashier, then revenue should be maintained and prices should go down. This is a slippery slope, SK has a high instance of alcohol abuse, this comes at great cost to the health, social, and criminal justice sectors - we don't need rock bottom prices. We certainly don't need a

liquor mart on every corner either - geographic regulations are needed. I don't want my children seeing a bunch of liquor everywhere we go.
I don't see any problem with the way things are now. If it isn't broke , don't fix it.
We wish to keep government liquor stores and no expansion of private stores.
Private stores if and when necessary but let them be the exception, not the rule. Please maintain public control of liquor sales in the province.
government keep out be like alberta
I don't believe liquor sales should be government regulated. I also feel that the ability to have liquor in grocery stores should be an option. Right now there isn't much convenience in the sale of liquor.
You would think that this should have been put to the public before becoming an option for the government in which we elect. All the money being lost for health care and children sports where will that come from yet another increase in public taxes. I would think Not we pay enough as is,I believe this is the one crown corp that should stay private!!!!!!!
Retailers should be able to have their products shipped direct to them rather than having to ship to Regina and then re-shipped. If the unions want to maintain the Government liquor stores, let them buy some themselves. I have no problem with the union going into business.
Government should not be involved in the sale of liquor. Employees are paid high wages for little responsibility. Despite what union members say they are not more careful about underage people getting liquor from the government run stores. I have seen this first hand. Government should regulate but private should own these businesses.
Do not change what we have.
I do not think that the issue of privatizing liquor retail should be framed in terms of (a) Government income and (b) avoidance of social harm. Regarding (a), the Government of Saskatchewan has a wide range of tools it could apply to maintain present levels of income from liquor sales, the most obvious of which being taxation. Regarding)b), I remain unconvinced that social harm and liberalization of liquor laws can be rigorously shown to be correlated. This notion would seem to be rooted more in prohibitionist ideology than in fact. For example, can it be shown that crime statistics, prevalence of alcoholism, etc., have changed significantly as a result of abandonment of government liquor stores in, say, Alberta? I should also state that I do not believe that government in general should be in the retailing business of anything. Our Province is growing, and our laws need to be adapted to the new realities of increasingly urbanized and educated populace.
more like alberta
Giving adults more choices on where they can buy liquor is an ideal situation. Putting that retail opportunity in reputable, comfortable settings (existing grocery/supermarket chains, department stores) rather than sketchy hole-in-the-wall locations would be preferred. If over the course of time government owned stores are no longer a financially feasible enterprise, discontinuing the existing government-owned stores make sense. Until then, operating multiple streams for retail sale makes sense.
Having seen the effects of the availability of cheap supermarket liquor on the younger population I would urge the government to continue the current policy of government owned and operated liquor stores.
Government should only do what ONLY Government can do!
Government operated liquor stores are holding the consumer hostage. we are dictated to in terms of when and where to shop. As a consumer of alcohol I want to be able to make a purchase any time on any day.
Keep the liquor stores public. Don't sell things off for a quick buck, when recurring revenue streams will benefit the province.
Privatizing liquor sales means that Saskatchewan loses that revenue. Lets keep that money in the province to be used for better health care, education. Privatizing "everything" has rarely, if ever, led to "the greater public good".
More product selection!!!
Your mark-up, according to your website, is 52%, including both taxes. How do you justify this? Minimum prices? How about free market ideals.
It would be great if a store could sell both alcohol and mix, i.e. pop, orange juice, etc.
Like everything in Saskatchewan, Everything is so overpriced as is. Please allow full privatization with all out competition. the price has no affect on health and well being of our province, that is just a sham for the government to make more off of "sin

Taxes"
In my opinion the government run stores make the province money, so why would you not continue or even expand that base of stores. As a business owner if my business is make money that is good for me and why would i not continue. I see the government wanting to get out of it and saying it would rather invest in schools and health care, they wont do that they are already building P3 schools which in reality they don't own. So keep our liquor stores public providing good jobs for people and leave the part time jobs that private stores would create to Tim Horton's and the Walmarts of the world. Thank You
Would like more access to liquor and lower prices; lived in Ontario and Alberta and they seem light years ahead of us on policy and provision of services.
I fully support liquor privitization
We do need more inspectors to maintain and assure compliance. Possibly offload to municipal governments with funding from SLGA to cover all bylaw enforcement costs.
My largest issue is with government moderation of selection, ie. lack of variety in certain beverages (especially beer, hard liquors). Private retail stores excel at this and I don't see why the SLGA cannot also increase variety.
Availability of liquor isn't a huge issue in the larger cities but I do find the hours of operation and variety of product in my town (Weyburn) is often disappointing.
I like the idea that Manitoba and Ontario follow.
Ontario and Manitoba are opening new gov't run stores and are making capital investments. This investment is paid back in very few years. According to the info I read, costs are between 12-13% of revenue for Govt to operate large urban stores and cost to Govt is 16% to have these stores run privately. This is lost revenue to the Govt that could be used to invest in roads, education etc. Closing rural liquor stores and making them franchises would result in reduced product selection (min 100 sku's compared to 500 for Govt stores as per the info provided). It looks like it would save govt some revenue (13.6% cost for franchises compared to 19%). These percentages are on much lower revenues though, so dollar amount would not be enough to justify the lost selection in these communities. Do not close current franchises and turn them into govt stores, as these business's need this revenue as they are used to it. All new liquor stores based on population needs in urban centers should be govt owned and operated for social responsibility reasons and for maximum revenue generating reasons.
Yes i do off sales should be in a bar if there is no bar in these little comminutys the put in a grocery store or restraunt in these small comminutys the stores and restraunt close around 8 and if the bar dont have off sales person has to drive to the next comminuty and Unfortunately there impaired
I believe liquor sales shouldn't be monopolized by the Government or only awarded to large grocery store chains. The intent should be to put choice back in the hands of the consumer and allow entrepreneurs the opportunity to create wealth in their local communities. The social engineering side of liquor sales (Keeping a minimum price on liquor to keep over consumption down) has proven a failure and is in fact just a tax on the people of Saskatchewan. Allowing for a free market system on the pricing and sale liquor would not only increase investment in our province but allow people the opportunity to keep more money in their pocket or to spend on other consumer products. Please end the archaic liquor laws governing this great province.
I believe the government should get out of the liquor business. As far as regulation, I think limiting the number of stores may be prudent but price control should be decreased. Alberta privatized years ago and I do not believe the was an increase in social issues. Sask still has the highest number of DUI even with regulation. Maybe we should put more money into law enforcement to get the drunks off the road or into social programs to help people rather paying retail employees exorbitant union wages to flog booze.
government does not belong in business! nobody puts more effort into a business than a owner that has a financial intrest in how well it does.
As it stands now, I make ALL of my major liquor purchases in Alberta, I spend an average of $1000/ year buying in Alberta for me and my family, this is money that I could be spending in my province, but as it stands why would I spend 20 to 30 dollars more on a product I can get way cheaper in Alberta? I drive semi for a living between Regina and Maple Creek and all I see is people coming back from Alberta with a load of groceries and liqour, so we need government OUT of the booze biz, and the SLGA needs to get out of the '20's mentallity and have less arcaic rules and regulations. Saskatchewan is loosing hundreds of thousands, if not millions in reveneu to Alberta, WHY? time to get the "communist" mentallity out of Saskatchewan. Thank you.
Public liquor stores should not be privatized and public stores should be allowed to sell refrigerated beer and other liquor just like off sale is allowed to sell hard liquor to allow it to be competitive
I believe that the Government run liquor stores should be maintained and expanded. The tax revenue derived from liquor sales

are better in the hands of government to better serve the needs of the Saskatchewan citizens. Privatizing liquor stores will result in the profits going to private business with no benefit to the citizens of the province. Giving up future lost revenue is very foolish.
Government and unions have no place in liquor sales. Get our prices down and selection up.
Have beer, wine and cooler sold in grocery stores and convenience stores but leave the liquor in venders and private stores ELIMINATE ALL GOVERNMENT LIQUOR STORE AND MORE VENDER AND PRIVATE STORES IN THE CITIES
Liquor sales are far too regulated, it is far too expensive. I don't believe that the price is set to keep people safer, it's for the huge profits. We just feel ripped off whenever we set foot in a liquor store.
I had my wedding in Saskatoon this past year and was forced to purchase our bulk alcohol for our toonie bar from SLGA rather than buy from Alberta for cheaper. The service we received from our local LB was unacceptable. We followed all of their rules when organizing our bulk order and when our wedding day came, they completely messed up our huge order and had none of the beer ready to go when we came to pick up, not the beer choices we had selected, and displayed no concern for our needs. To say the least, I will not support our government run LB's as there is zero accountability from their employees from my experience. I have since gone only to private stores in Sask (Co-op) and usually buy in bulk from Alberta and bring back for personal consumption. Please modernize Saskatchewan liquor laws!
My son has been in Calgary recently on work terms and says the whole idea that everything is cheaper is not true. If you want to drive around and comparison shop it might be but if you just go into a random store the price is usually the same and in some cases higher than here. Yes there are cheap places but not all place are cheap. Low end beers can be cheap but once you get into a higher quality of beer that is not the case. My own experience is that while overall selection is higher that doesn't mean every store has this huge selection that we don't get here.
I agree with more private stores I just do not want to see the franchises awarded to big time party supporters. Keep the politics out of it
I would support the privatization of Saskathchewan liquor stores, only if it would bring the pricing on par with other countries, such as the US. If pricing only drops by a dollar or two, then we might as well keep the government stores, so that the revenues stay within Saskatchewan, to be used to meet the needs of us taxpayers. Not help make just some other bussinesman rich, whom would run a busines on a part time skeleton crew working for minimum wage and no health benefits.
Government Stores, in regards to overhead, is a cost that isn't necessary. Retail side is better handled by private companies and as long as the government controls the supply, the Government will actually make more profit. (Centralize operations supply operations, IE, purchasing etc.)
The present system has worked well over a long time. Private stores are in business to make a profit for their self or shareholders, not for the province or it's tax payers. The government wants to invest in other things, where will they get the money from if private keeps most of the money? Common Sense! Please use your brains and forget the privatization at all cost theory. Don't make another blunder like the movie industry fiasco!
I want to be able to buy a good bottle of wine without travelling 75 Kms. Our LB store at the lake closes at noon and closes early in the evening, no customer service at all!
Adopt the European mentality on access to liquor and how/where it is served. Allow restaurants to have open and permeable patios without fencing. The government should not have a role in protecting people from themselves, only when their actions negatively affect others.(eg. drunk driving, aggression, public endangerment)
Private competition is the best way to ensure the best service, product and overall experience when shopping for liquor.
It would be great to be able to purchase in costco, walmart, superstore!!
- Most employees of government run outlets are not well informed on actual products. In some areas, their major daily concern are those "unwanted patrons" who frequent and are banned from the store, and are loittering outside, causing trouble for other patrons. When in a smaller city, this may be the only place to purchase liquor, and it is unnerving to be female trying to get through a crowd of 6 males standing at the entrance asking people to buy liquor for them because they are banned from the store - and this particular store is directly across from the RCMP - who are not helpful in the situation. If privately owned, the owners would have more of a right to "police presence" in the situation. Right now, government owned land and building, any Sask resident has the right to be there. Privately owned may be safer for all those concerned. North Battleford is a terrible situation. For a female, it is best to go during daylight hours. The parking lot can be an issue, let alone the store itself. I've stopped at much smaller locations on the way to the lake, ie: Blaine Lake - without incident. Cochin. I would rather pay the

$1 extra than go through the hassles of the city LBS. Many of the employees at Government Owned LBS are paid high wages, therefore some of this is included in the price passed on to the consumer. Consumer needs/wants are changing and LBS may need to go to "online and delivery" shopping available 24/7. The government should not be involved in trying to prevent people from drinking alcohol. That is a personal decision that should be left with the individual. (If legalized will there be a tax on marijuana to prevent addiction?) The current situation provides the alcoholic with way too many "nets" to catch them if they fall, and they continue to use those services. Some many times without success. All government owned companies should be disbanded and sold. The time for these "restrictions" of choice for Saskatchewanians is over. These government companies served their purpose, but no longer. Like privately run liquor stores, the consumer wants worldly choice, which is available to them online at a cost, they are willing to pay that cost right now for delivery. Many in Saskatchewan will have a case of wine shipped from BC, California because it is not available in the liquor stores here Why not change that to a cost that is recoverable to the province? Sell the current buildings and land and liquor stores outright to new owners. Sobeys new store in Saskatoon is much easier and safer to shop in and it is in a location that is available to the consumer who also needs to go get groceries, pick up their Rx at the phamacy, and withdraw money from a bank. Many of the government owed outlets are on sidestreets or strip malls, not consumer friendly locations. (The parking lots at University Heights, and 8th Street East are a "nightmare"). I like that you can go to Costco USA and purchase your groceries, liquor (and in larger sizes for cheaper money) your rx, your new tv, etc. all in one location.
I think the liquor stores in Saskatchewan should not be privatized. It is a cash cow for province so why we would we want to change. It is a job that allows workers to maintain a good standard of living and lots of the wages go back to the community.
I do not believe that regulating availability controls or maintains consumpation. Nor does price. Thoughs that want will find a way to get. Stiffer and harsher penalties for drinking and driving and public intoxication may help more.
Fix the liquor prices here in sask. and hundreds of people will stop going to alberta to re-stock. Our family made at least four trips this year alone and the savings probably was more than a thousand dollars so imagine how much revenue is lost from all the people that do the same thing.
I have travelled extensively throughout the world and firmly believe that we should follow the European model and emphasize the availability, privatization and deregulation of all alcohol products. The government should also not be in the wholesale business of these products and their involvement in alcohol sales should be limited to basic regulation policies (as for tobacco products). Let the marketplace decide.
The selling of alcohol is a VERY profitable business and the SK government should retain control over it so that the revenue from liquor sales can support health care, roads, sport and cultural activities etc. The main reasons that people complain about government run liquor stores are: 1). The store hours, 2). The liquor selection, 3) The location, 4) The price. All of these issues can be easily resolved within the framework of the government owning the stores. The government would be making a foolish decision to let go of this profit. Why do you think private companies are chomping at the bit to get a hold of a liquor store franchise.....liquor is liquid gold! Don't privatize the liquor stores. I can think of are hundred things that the revenue from liquor sales could be used for. ...like an overpass at the Martensville exit...
Move to an alberta style system of distribution and sales but do not have requirement for a seperate location. Have it in the stores like in the US. the seperate location is a silly requirement.
Expanded government retail network is the way to go. It can take the spaces in retail locations like the private stores do now, or in malls, without requiring so much input cost to set up locations. Take the LCBO as an example, which has more, smaller locations with fewer varieties, but greater accessibility, while a few stores specialize in certain areas or are large enough to have a wide selection.
Either option #1 or option #2 could benefit the customers and preserve government profits but government needs to keep a tight control on private stores, specially if option #2 is chosen and it's important to ensure that government employees would not be fired.
It makes no sense to be paying Government employees to stand at a till and sell liquor and stock shelves. These are wasted tax dollars and I would assume lead to some of the inflation we see in our liquor pricing compared to other provinces in Canada. Government intervention in controlling availability is weak as those with alcohol abuse illnesses can and will still obtain liquor today anyways. These issues have less to do with availability and more to do with illness. We don't have government employees selling groceries, stocking shelves and running a till - why are we holding liquor sales to a different standard?
I find product selection to be the biggest hindrance in what SLGA does. For the govt to limit the type/brand available is absurd. I strongly agree with SLGA rules and regulations regarding pricing and safety for the public, but to limit variety does not make sence. It's the number one reason Iam against govt involvement in the buissness.
We must recall that the public system is much more affordable in terms of administration, advertising and marketing compared to private stores. What is more, the public system has a monopoly in purchasing power, compelling costs to be made

competitive. For example, Alberta has privatized their liquor stores, and prices are known to be much more expensive in comparison to Saskatchewan. But what is more important are the social harms that result from privatization. Good jobs are lost, and the money that should be going towards public services, such as Addictions in the Community Based Organization sector which are meant to counteract the social harms that result from alcohol consumption, well, that money goes into private hands (the few) as compared to society at large. Privatization needs to stop! We should be a province that others admire - not participating in the continual race to the bottom.
Governments shoud stick to their CORE activities and responsibilities and let others to take the out of Government's Core like Selling Liquor. Government shall provide SOCIAL SERVICES to Citizen, not Selling products/services that are others CORE business. Using Taxpayers money to operate a non social service is completely wrong. Please focus in your CORE and do it with excellence.
Why would any government give up (according to the figures on this website) $295 million? Any profit, no matter how small is still a profit. I've been to liquor stores in Alberta and, other than the price of beer, prices are pretty much the same as Saskatchewan prices. Don't forget that Alberta may have private liquor stores but they also have a health care fee that has to be paid by either the employer or the population, apparently depending on the size of the employer, Why is this cost not being talked about?
Sorry but the wording of some of the questions (eg. investing in other government priorities other than liquor stores) is designed to steer the respondent towards a specific response. I will not trust the results of this survey because of this.
our liquor laws are out dated and quite frankly embarrassing people coming here to visit laugh at the way we control our current laws. Why do I have to shop for food in one location and then drive a mile for a bottle of wine? We need to change,we don't need stand alone buildings like they do in Alberta it just adds to the cost . We need to change our laws! Currently an under age person can't be in a store working, like Costco, because liquor is for sale? Doesn't that same under age person live in a house with parents that have a liquor cabinet that is under the same roof? I don't buy any of that argument that looser laws will contribute to more abuse of alcohol just look at other provinces and countries to see that is not factual.
Keep liquor stores public!
Keep the stores publicly owned. Stop privatizing.
I support some privatization, such as grocery stores and a few private liquor stores. I DO NOT want alcohol sold at every gas station or every corner store. As well, the gov't should still control the warehousing. Thanks
Don't Privatize!
Would like to see options for more private retailers and to purchase wine ion grocery stores
keep it the same , no to privatizing..this survey is so flawed and geared towards the governments favor of privatizing and tricking people into it
I like the idea of when you go to the States or Mexico, you can purchase your alcohol in almost any store. I don't think they have any more of a problem with quality or minors getting it than here. And we are loosing a large amount of revenue from people going accross the line to get cheaper booze, so why not make it more convenient and just do the same. I am sure any lost revenue can be made up other ways.
A mixture of public and private could work and be acceptable but see no problems with privatizing it all.
Get with the times! Only province that still is in the 30's. Have liquor chilled and LOWER the prices. Have a look at Alberta!
to much gov.
My major concern is that if we close government liquor stores we will be losing jobs that pay a decent living wage. This needs to be considered in the discussion of more privatization of liquor stores.
End Government involvement in the retailing and sale of liquor. This is the 21st century where most democratic jurisdictions have long ago ended such archaic practises.
Transition to the Alberta model.
It is important to use proceeds from liquor sales to offset the public health impact of alcohol in our communities. I would like to see better control of drink driving, snowmobiling, boating and better public education and treatment for alcohol abuse.
My experience with private liquor retailers (Willox Park in Regina, Alberta, and other retailers in Arizona) is SO much better than

the monopolized we have to deal with here. I am active supporter of the party and fully support the privatization of liquor. I would take it a step further and do not trust that the employees at SLGA are doing a good enough job wholesaling either. I think the Government you get out of wholesaling but if they are going to stay in the operation should outsource it to an expert like what is done in Alberta.
Keep liquor stores public. I can't believe our government would even consider losing a great source of revenue for our province. Does the government even care about the loss of jobs privatization will impact on the PEOPLE of this province. SHAME!
I think there should be aloud more than one establishment in a town with the license to sell of sale, especially when the restaurant closes at 9 and the bar stays open until 2am, the bar should have the right to sell off sale also!
price of liquor will increase if liquor is privatized. Good jobs in liquor stores will be lost if liquor is privatized. PLEASE DO NOT PRIVATIZE LIQUOR STORES WHICH PROVIDE GOOD INCOME TO THE PROVINCE
Stop selling our crowns!! BTW these loaded questions are ridiculous - the one about investing in liquor stores. The government doesn't invest in anything with SLGA. SLGA invests it's own money and SLGA is a huge contributor to the General Revenue Fund. . Very pathetic. Fix the roads, fix the hospitals, and stop the of ruining our crown corps. Figure out how to balance a budget first and stop pushing through you agendas that the public doesn't want.
Keep it public.
The selection of specialty products in the SLGA stores is abismal. The current options of special ordering in a product by the case is not a valid or viable solution. The selction of craft beer and specialty products under the private system in Alberta or the OLG in Ontario is FAR superior to that offered by the SLGA. If the system remains public in SK, consider opening the market to a wider variety of products!
If we're going to change the current system let's go all the way and adopt a system similar to many U.S. states that is grocery store liquor sales. Replacing gov't stores with private stores would make no difference to most consumers from a convience point of view. Let's be a leader, in Canada, in this change and go to grocery store sales.
none
We don't live in the past but our governmental agencies seem to. I understand the want of monies from the sale of liquor to be redistributed throughout the province but it's just another form of tax. We as a society/province need to stop choosing what is right and wrong for each other, that's a slippery slope. This is a good first step to allowing all residents a choice.
Setting a minimum price for liquor (making it more expensive than in other provinces like Alberta for example) benefits the government more than it prevents social harm. Poorer folk beg outside liquor stores, steal from those that can afford liquor or make their own which does more social harm than affordable liquor ever will. I support the 'Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail' option being considered.
Your survey implies that government dollars spent on liquor outlets i.e. Public stores, takes away or diminishes the amount of dollars available for other important social spending such as health care. This is total misinformation, and is intended only to sway the opinions of those who do not realize that taxes collected from the sale of liquor in Public stores are a major source of revenue. In no way do they affect the availability of funds for anything else and in fact should provide an additional source of funds for use in these same social causes. By public record, SLGA consistently turns a large profit. The attempts by this government to privatize liquor sales may very well realize the same amount of tax paid in, but it will also create another batch of Mc-Jobs, and place profits from lower wages directly in the pockets of this governments corporate bedfellows. The jobs in Public stores provide an important source of decent employment in many communities, especially for women. This government talks the talk about the importance of women in the work force, but it certainly doesn't walk the walk. Wages from Public employment stay in the community, and benefit not only the employee but the viability of other businesses in the same community, where they are spent. Minimum wage jobs create nothing for the employee other than a minimum standard of living, no worker protection and merely put profits in the pockets of corporations who are already getting massive tax exemptions, paid for by all our taxes. The statement that our feedback will help design the future of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan also rings false, especially when the Minister responsible is quoted in the Star Phoenix as saying "if people want the Public Stores expanded and improved, Government may do this, but it won't be THIS government." So to intimate that they are listening to both sides of this debate is ludicrous. This is nothing more than an attempt to misdirect attention from the pathetic job they are doing in Health Care, Social Services, and other areas that really matter to us as taxpayers.
I think if the Government is going to privatize liquor sales, then it should do so in an open competitive manner - that is - allow anyone eligible for a business license to be licensed. I think that it is misleading to state that the Government is prevented from investing in other priorities while at the same time, stating this in the report "The sale of alcohol is an important

stream of revenue for the government that helps to pay for other public priorities such as healthcare, roads and education."
Do NOT privatize - keep liquor stores in government - we have too many intoxicated people already - giving more access at a lower price is the worst thing the government can do
Give privatization a shot
Government should not be business. Privatize it all.
1. Rural outlets need to be given special consideration. If a grocery store is the only feasible outlet in the community, then it should be issued a licence to sell alcoholic products. 2. I strongly disagree with liquor drive-through outlets. 3. Where there are other options available, I feel strongly that alcoholic products should not be sold in grocery stores or other venues frequented by underage citizens. 4. I just feel better as a citizen if the government continues to maintain tight/strict control and oversight of legal alcoholic products in Saskatchewan.
The big issue is the big government markup on alcohol which should be removed. Government should should not be in the alcohol business at all be it profiting from a price markup or retailing. I would agree with a modest tax (e.g. 10 to 15%) that should be clearly indicated with a sticker on each product. But leave product selection and marketing to the free market!
Saskatchewan is one of the only jurisdictions that have state owned and operated liquor stores. Private companies have proven in various other jurisdictions that they have the capacity to operate liquor retail independently. Please stop spending public dollars to fund a retail industry that does not require it. Instead, please invest in infrastructure and other projects actually beneficial to the province.
Happy with the way Brads running our province
I am totally against private liquor stores in Saskatchewan. The revenue from this stores should be going to the government. Privatizing will ensure that part of the revenue goes into private hands. Some of these questions are phrased in such a way that other than no opinion other responses are slanted in support of the government agenda of privatization with no way of opting for the status quo. Privatization will lead to less tax revenue and therefore the necessity of further cuts to programs that are already suffering. This move to privatization is part of the government "cut anything and everything regardless of the effect on the lives of the citizens of this province" policy, With privatization the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. NO MORE PRIVATE STORES1111111111
The selection is not going to be better from a Private Liquor Store. Private Liquor Store owners are more likely to sell alcohal to minors rather then Public Liquor Store employees. The Private guy wants to make the sale for profit, Public guys are more responsible in this regard. Public Stores make money for the Province and it goes back into the communities for good use, not to make Joe Blow a rich individual. Privatization is wrong in my mind, leave the current system alone and stop trying to be like Alberta! If I wanted to live in Alberta I'd move there. Let's be our own Province and stop copying stupid mistakes they do. Also one more point, more robberies and crime with small private liquor outlets.
Alcohol is a commodity and should be purchased and resold like any other product, let the business people source where they choose and than resell at any profit margin that they feel is necessary. the government should not be involved in any retail business in any shape or form as long as it operates within the laws of the land.
Let's open it up to privatization. Competition is always healthy.
I would far sooner see the profits from retail liquor flow back to the government than to private sector interests, especially to large retailers like Sobeys. And I do not want to see a bunch of grotty little private liquor stores like they have in the U.S. Franchised liquor sales make sense in rural areas where a stand-along liquor stores would not be viable. I like the current mix of publically owned and private outlets. Personally, I buy all our liquor at a public store, even though I live close to Willow Park and numerous off-sale outlets.
What's the point won't be any cheaper we have enough minimum pay jobs. More important things to do than this smokescreen
Do not privatize liquor stores!

I find it frustrating that the liquors which I choose to drink are significantly more expensive in SK compared to Alberta. The worst example I can think of is that I really enjoy Paddock Wood beer. I purchase most of it directly from the brewery which is only minutes from my house. I pay $20 for 6 bottles of Loki. In Calgary, my friend pays $18 for 6 bottles. So after the product travel 600 km, it is cheaper. It's only $2, but that seems ridiculous. The same issue abounds with high-end tequila and scotch, both are routinely 25% to 30% cheaper in AB (if not more). Since I travel to AB frequently to visit family and friends I tend to reserve purchasing of these products during my travels. I figure that in a given year I save roughly $250 purchasing premium spirits in AB. I have taken to spending more in the province with the opening of the Co-op liquor store in Blairmore because of the wonderful selection (Scotch and Tequila selection in the government run stores are embarrassingly poor), but the price discrepancies remain frustrating.

Keep the Government Liquor Stores...dont close them

I would like there to be more product selection and more locations, but for the profitable government stores to remain open.

I really, really like using the SaskLiquor website. I hate having to drive all over Regina to 3 or 4 liquor stores just to find the product I'm looking for in stock - the SaskLiquor website shows me both where the product is in stock and how much it is. I live in Harbour Landing in Regina and the closest liquor store is a 10 minute drive away - seems a bit ridiculous considering the population out here. I know that Willow Park is opening a store out here in the next couple of months and that will be really great, and I will definitely shop there... but if they don't have what I'm looking for, it'd still be nice to check the website to find other stores that may have what I'm looking for in stock!

It would be nice to have more selection and more availability, but when I'm looking for something specific, I wouldn't mind paying more and/or travelling further to get it.

I would rather the government operate liquor stores so the revenue goes directly back to the province, versus a private store owner.

Definitely time to privatize and have some competition/choice.

I am happy the government is asking for input. I strongly support the ability to choose and whether or not this includes going to a public or private vendor it remains my choice. I think unions are more concerned with protecting their own status rather than seeing the big picture. As long as liquor prices are competitive. And revenue for health, highways etc are protected than I support other options.

I expect the net revenue the government receives now will be the same after any changes. That is based on the same volume. If volumes increased I would expect the net revenue to government to increase. I would expect if the government sold any buildings it would be a market prices. If you can not compare the aftermath of the sale to the present situation then leave things the way they are.

I would advocate for the ability to purchase liquor outside of conventional/current locations. The ability to purchase alcohol at a grocery store is very appealing to me, and I don't see how having it available in these locations has a negative impact

I am a big supporter of the Saskparty, but if this is what they intend to do to our Province by allowing big corporations to come in and take everything from us, then I will no longer be a supporter of them. They have lost my vote.

I'm not opposed to more private retailers. However, what I don't want to see is government making the decision to not invest in its retail operations. We have public liqour stores that are not providing the quality service they should because government hasn't reinvested in the business. We should be renovating our stores and increasing our warehouse capacity to offer more selection. If we don't, while simultaneously enabling more private retailers, these stores will eventually wither and the decision to move to a fully private system will be the net effect.

I certainly think government should take a hard look at modernizing SLGA. Perhaps we should seperate the retail functions of SLGA from the regulatory functions and operate it as a Crown corporation. When establishing the liqour retail Crown, let's ensure that we include the appropriate dividend policy in law so that we can enable the corproation to reinvest in its operations while make a positive contribution to the provincial treasury.

If we aren't going to make the decision to move to the Alberta system, and don't want our policy choices to tacitly lead us in that direction, it will require us to reinvest in our publicly funded liqour stores. We can improve the customer experience at publicly funded liqour stores, it simply takes political will.

I strongly disagree with privatizing how many jobs are going to be lost over this.

The only reason the unions are crying foul is because they risk losing their cushy gov't jobs. It must be terrible for them to think that they may actually have to work for their money in a private setting - much like the majority of us have to do!

Can't wait until it's fully privatized & no one selling liquor works for the gov't!

Let the money go to the working people finally.

Government should focus on regulating industry, not competing with industry. Government by definition is not business, and

therefore should not be involved in activities such as retail operations that are better served by the retail industry.
Saskatchewan needs to be out of the liquor business completely. To me this means distribution as well as sales. While there is a greater selection in the private stores in YXE and YQR the prices are not much different than anywhere else. This I believe is due to the fact they still must buy from SLGA with its horrendous markups. This needs to change. There can be no significant price drop with government distribution. The small town I live in with a franchise has pricing not really a lot different than the SLGA stores. This needs to change. And the people who say alcohol problems will increase are just blowing hot air in my opinion. Plus there are some other silly regulations that need to be changed. Example: the ability to have any type of cold beer you want not just the so called "imports" Our local pub/off-sale vendor has in past complained about the liquor franchisee about putting domestic beer in coolers. That is petty in itself; but that is the most ludicrous regulation I ever heard. I'm sure other silly rules like that exist. They also need to be changed. Probably no one will read this. But if they do thanks for the opportunity to speak out.
privatization puts profit money in one persons pocket that profit will not stay in Saskatchewan.... while the 40 people working for him or her are on minim wage going to the food bank.. Alberta prices are not cheaper..grocery stores profit does not stay in Saskatchewan..the people selling in private stores do not study and write a test on the alcohol product they are selling..so less knowledge in most cases..when i want to buy a bottle of wine or any other product they know what they are selling... not i just started last week let me ask someone else...i would like to be served by a person that is well educated in there product.
I believe there should be more off sale outlets available and have all off sale available until 12 am
I find that the staff in private store far more helpful and friendlier, and that being a coop member purchases of liquor go to my total member equity at end of year
keep it status quo
I think it is very unfortunate that this survey is so biased. Of course health care and roads are important. Liquor stores are profitable and the profit can be used to support other priorities. Alcohol abuse is an extreme problem in some segments of our population and having liquor more readily available will just exacerbate those problems. The system works well the way it is and the government needs to maintain tight control over liquor sales. The alberta system is a poor model. I appreciate being able to go into a Sask liquor store and know that the products I want will be available. Govt liquor stores provide customer service. Private stores carry smaller product lines in order to maximize profit.
I believe that there is a role for government in supporting jobs that pay a 'living wage'. Government should model that behavior.
Government should not be in the retail business alcohol or otherwise.
Please eliminate the Ad Velorem policy, this unfairly drives up the price of quality liquors.
Government has to withdraw from owning liquor stores. Paying Union members $20.00 per hour plus, to stock shelves is unbelievable. It is 2014, let's get with the rest of the country/world.
I believe liquor retailing should be all privatised. Open sales up for competition. Remove the socialistic attitude from sales.
I believe our liquor stores have improved over the last several years,however they still lack selection,locations & price.We residents in Saskatchewan deserve much better than we have been receiving.
You are messing with people's jobs and means of living. You want everyone to make minimum wage? Let your buddies get a private store and have the rich get richer. I know many people in Alberta and they are not as happy as you seem to make out. Talking about private stores being open a whole hour later, playing to cheaper booze for the younger generation. These are ridiculous concerns. The way the system is now works perfectly fine! Stop worrying about you and your buddies making money and take of the province. They are bigger concerns the alcohol.
Gov. going in right direction, #3 is a good option, good number of people now buy liquor in alberta hoping not to be seen.
I dont oppose government run and operated liquor sales but I do support privatizing the sector at the same time. Living in Edmonton when they went through the privatizing era I know about the convenience aspect of it, the increased selection and better pricing options through competition. However, saturation of the market in select areas was a problem and some communitites had dozens of liquor stores within walking distace of each other and that is a social problem that must be built into a liquor sales model here in SK. I do think it is time for the province to change and update our current model to reflect the demands of the current population. I have shopped at one of the new private Sobeys liquor stores (Saskatoon) and it was a

fantastic experience. Selection was great and staff were knowlegeable and helpfull also. Price was pretty similar to SLGA however they do have the ability to mark down if they choose which benefits the consumers. A few alternatives I read in the provincial comparables are of great interest to me and I think would be greatly supported if adopted here in SK. The Liquor Mart Express model used in Manitoba for grocery stores would be very nice to have in urban centres here in SK. For convenience of one-stop shopping for groceries and alcohol in one place would be a cost savings for families in fuel and time. Plus not having to drive to separate stores reduces emmissions from vehicles so there is the environmental spin also. From a planning perspective, grocery stores are regulated through municipal bylaws and usually do not locate in close proximity to one another for competition purposes. This would work for the goal of not saturating a neighbourhood with liquor stores also and would achieve a public convenience objective aswell. Hours of operation same as grocery store, but I do like the idea of having government staff for public safety aspect ensuring no underage sales and selling to intoxicated individuals who might get into their car after purchasing. I would also like the government here in SK to look at the Manitoba "Bottle & Cork" model stores for bulk wine sales here. This would be a very interesting addtion to the wine retail market.
I strongly believe that government run liquor stores are better for the community and I am against adding more private store to our community
Changing over to an Alberta plan would make sense, also look at the way the USA sells liquor, in stores, seems to work very well, I can only hope there are positive changes as we are still in the old age thinking in Sask. lets move on!
Government should concentrate on Public Health, Safety, Roads, Schools rather than selling liquor, insurance, power. Energy, Telephones. It should leave such stuff to private sector. Please check how Alberta operates, your next door neighbor. They have huge surplus and they have less taxes.
I think a mix of private and public liquor stores is a good thing.... it could lead to an all inclusive one stop shopping experience for entertaining your guests
I always purchase the bulk of my liquor from Alberta due to the price. It is my belief the province would increase the revenues simply by being competitive on the price point with Alberta. As more sales at less markup can equate to as much profit.
Our Province is way too conservative and has to get with the times of moving forward. Why is our Government even spending money and time to do this survey?? I am sure the citizens of this Province have been asking for private liquor stores for enough years that it makes you think if this debating is just a job creation idea. And does the Government really think that setting a minimum price on liquor is a way to reduce social harm that can result from access to cheap alcohol??? I believe this might create more social harm as those that cannot afford our prices will do more social harm such as theft to accumulate the funds required to pay for our overpriced liquor. I ask you Saskatchewan Government please quit spending our tax dollars on things that are such a waste of time and money so many other services such as our roads could have the extra money. Oh and the deadline for this waste of time and money survey is January 30, 2015.....why why why does it take so long to make a decision that should have happened years ago.
I always favor private, non Union business. I do agree with the province remaining in the wholesaling of liquor. You have my full support to privates. I am a retired crown corporation Union member. Keep unions out of it.
Our community was one of four that lost the government store in July 2014 a retail grocery store was awarded the liquor store. The store owner has increased the size of the store, open seven days a week, one stop shopping and two tills that removes the problem of underage staff.
Liquor should not be sold in grocery stores where minors can see. If we keep cigarette off kids sight why are beer and liquor products displayed in full in grocery stores.
Government markup (profit) is too high even though some proceeds go to legitimate gov't programs. Also government jobs retailing liquor pay way more than they should which adds to the high prices the provinces charge. I know two teachers who kept their liquor store jobs as cashiers even after they were teaching with their degrees because their liquor store wages were too good to turn down. They did this for a number of years. This is not right. They are paid too much for the skill required, sorry. Thanks for letting me provide input.
Having more options to purchase liquor on Saskatchewan will not lead to social harm. Part of the problem with alcohol abuse is that alcohol is seen to be different and interesting by young people. Responsible alcohol usage is normal and is what should be modeled to our young people, not necessarily abstinence. There is no reason that as a shopper I shouldn't be able to buy a bottle of wine at the grocery store as part of the overall grocery purchase I am making.
Do not privatize the SLGA. If I am going to buy liquor I would rather buy it from myself instead of a corporation. If there are going to be profits made from liquor sales I want them to be made by the province so I don't have to pay more taxes to support health care. Please expand the services that the SLGA offers to include more wine specialty shops like they have in Ontario.
I do not want to see exclusive private owned liquor stores. Private stores would hire employees at minimum wage and make profits for themselves where currently employees in public stores receive decent wages and profits are used to fund provincial social and infrastructure programs.

If the Government does proceed with more privatization of liquor retail sales it should only do this in the locations where costs to operate public stores exceeds 12 percent of annual revenue.

I would like to keep a balance of where we are today with retail stores and have no problem in constructing new Gov't owned stores to keep the existing ratio of public/private outlets.

I would prefer to see a more balanced mix of private and government liquor retailers in Saskatchewan. I do not believe that the provincial government needs to increase of decrease the number of liquor retail store it currently operates, nor the number of staff it employs at these locations; however, I o believe that any additional future liquor retailers should be private.

Furthermore, if the provincial government is going to legislate how private liquor retailers and off-sales sell their products, then the government should remove these retailers' ability to increase their prices based on the hour of the day (ie. off-sales selling liquor at a higher prices during the hours when the government liquor stores are closed). The cost of liquor products should be the same at 11AM as they are at 11PM.

Customer service is horrible in govt liquor stores. They don't need to provide service or civility because it has no bearing on keeping their job. Terrible selection. Dinosaur operation. Why do these people deserve triple the wage to do the same thing as someone in Walmart or Home Depot? If they had knowledge of emerging products or how to recommend wines, beer, etc then this would justify the wage. They run a till and manage inventory - the end. You want a surly look and no polite conversation when purchasing your liquor - by all means head to the nearest govt liquor store.

My preference would be the Alberta style fully private liquor sales.

I moved to Alberta from Saskatchewan in 1992 and saw how well it went and that there were no negatives from a consumer point of view. The world really didn't change outside of the government workers effected. On returning to Saskatchewan in 1996 the idea that we needed to have the Government involved in retail sales really seemed absurd in light of how well things had worked in Alberta.

I checked out one of the private stores, a co-op and the benefit of being able to earn equity on purchases from there is an added bonus no gov't store can offer. Supporting friends and former coworkers is also a bonus, much like the rural franchise locations,,,pay more but better than having to drive in to the city.

The addition of private sales may help decrease costs with added competition, which would also be a benefit as prices keep climbing.

Since we have the most impaired drivers in a province I think we need to look at the effect of more liquor on society. Responsible drinking should be mephasized.

I support private liquor sales to achieve greater selection and price competitivness

Get rid of unions

As an event organizer I deal with SLGA in regards to liquor permits and raffle licenses so my concern is if sales go privatized will an organization still get the kick-back from SLGA for expenses like an organization does now? Or is SLGA not going to change if privatized!?

I full support private stores. We don't need government run outlets - the nanny state. It is an added expense what with public salaries and pensions, property management, etc. I understand the province will maintain warehousing operations. I have no problem with that continuing as long as we don't just transfer existing staff from the stores into warehousing (no reduction of public staffing). One issue that must be addressed is security for the patrons in and around all of the stores. This is a major issue at the current "public" operated liquor stores. There are invariably one or more standing outside watching you go in and out. It can be very unnerving and should not be a "you bet your life" situation! There have been attacks at all of the Regina public stores. It is a pleasure to shop at the Willows (Regina) existing store and I look forward to the new one opening soon.

Walk in coolers

Saskatchewan has the highest rate of Impaired drivers and also underage drinking in Canada.

The focus will go from selling liquor responsibly to selling to whoever just as long as you can make a sale and turn a profit.

Liquor staff are vigilant on IDing customers and also refusal of selling to intoxicated persons. The current system is run very efficiently and effectivly.

Why do we have to change our system we have at present? We have a variety of outlets namely: 75 gov't stores, 190 private and 450 off-sale outlets making 632 million annual revenue. Perfect!

The employees are well paid with benefits working in gov't stores. A person must earn a living. This shows we care for the workers in SK.

One time the liquor dividend to the gov't was greater than from potash. My wife agrees with me incase she can not submit her thoughts from this computer anymore--only one!
Remove the government from the sale and distribution of alcohol.
Planned migration to private is the way to go. Get the union mentality out of stores asap. Public stores would have to compete (not a role of gov't) so phase them out asap.
We should allow purchasing at most of our retail stores for accessibility. I want to be able to purchase my beverages at Costso - Safeway and other establishments instead of having to drive to a regulated outlet. Our prices are too high and when you look at Alberta you cant help but wonder if this is due to government and union workers. Personally I make sure I buy and extra couple of items to bring home everytime I am out of province due to the cost and I know you are to. Think about that lost revenue to the province if you are competitive. Time to get out of the 1950's and catch up with the rest of the world Saskatchewan.
I have lived in three different provinces and travelled through many US states. I appreciate inexpensive alcohol available in neighbouring provinces and states at grocery stores and large chains such as Costco.
Alcohol revenue should be kept in the pockets of the province.
I find it a joke that my city of 35000 residents has one liquor store and my options for purchase are limited to the discretionary ordering whims and practices by a faceless govt entity.
Shake off the antiquated socialistic approach to all business operations. The market will eventually determine the most efficient and successful method to adopt.
Privatizing all/more liquor stores replaces good-paying jobs with minimum wage jobs = not good for the economy. The govt should be a liquor retail competitor in order to control prices.
I don't believe the government has any role in the sale of liquor in Canada or Saskatchewan. The days of NDP running everything are over.
Do not make stores be stand-alone like in Alberta. Let them be part of another business so they have a better chance of surviving in rural Saskatchewan. Also do not put a mileage restriction - let every community that wants one have one.
In my opinion and what I have observed while visiting Alberta they seem to have a good system in place. Not only ample locations to purchase but a more competitive cost to consumers compared to Sask. I also understand the Gov. of Ab. is handling distribution at a very profitable level.
Leave liquor sales as is. Staff @ sask liquor stores are responsible & continually check id & also check if customers are under the influence. I don't know if this would occurr as frequently in a private run system. The government makes a great deal of revenue from this system that currently supports health & education, social services & many other programs that make this province a good place to call home. Sask liquor employees also have a stake in this province as they live, work & raise their families here. They also spend their money here, which is part of the economy. People are always going to purchase alcohol, so keep the profits in the hands of the people.
Your questions on the government being able to invest in other priorities is very misleading and should not be part of this survey,
The 'rules' set by government did not prevent me from consuming alcohol while I was still a minor, nor did they prevent alcohol abuse among people I knew. In my experience, when looking for a particular product, getting it in Alberta has always been the solution.
I believe that the government should definitely regulate and monitor the sales of alcohol, to ensure that it is not getting into the wrong hands. The powers that be do not allow private businesses to sell marijuna, it is regulated and I believe that alcohol is definitely more harmful when it is in the wrong irresponsible hands. I don't think that private liquor stores will monitor as well as the SLGA. And the profits supposedly go toward good causes, who or where would private profit sales go too?
I have no problem in the Government getting out of the business completely. In Britain and Europe, one can walk into any grocery store and buy wines and spirits without having to walk out to a separate building.
My first priority would be to see an increase in selection of products available to me as a consumer. Second would be to see a

reduction in gov'ts costs associated with building and maintaining infrastructure associated with gov't owning buildings required to retail alcohol. Third would be to see a reduction in the number of civil servants required to provide the structure/system to deliver liquor retailing services in SK.

The discussion ought to be about the SLGA's monopoly on importing, wholesaling and warehousing. I place the greatest importance on price and selection (especially of high-quality and foreign beers) and as long as the SLGA's monopoly on the non-retail areas of the industry continues price and selection will not change. Though I'm sure you already know this.

Liquor should definitely be sold in grocery stores. At the very least wine and beer. WE DO NOT NEED GOV OWNED LIQUOR STORES.

And while were at it start privatizing our hospitals. They are dumps in Reg, NB, st pauls in Saskatoon. we need new ones let someone else build and pay for them.

Thx

Prices for alcohol need to be lower. Keeping high prices are not going to stop alcoholism. If people are alcoholic they will find ways to be drunk no matter what. Don't punish the majority for what a few people do.

Inside the background information and survey provided no mention is made regarding the partnership of business between the Government/SLGA and existing restaurants selling alcohol. Specifically restaurants without an off-sale or franchise that are restricted to resell only in-house. Why are they not also considered viable for expanded service options? Why are there different rules for different players in what is essentially the same industry? Are these types of unfair practices also to be reviewed by this process?

Increased access to quality and well priced products does not increase substance abuse. We live in one of the most restricted and regulated provinces in Canada, and yet we have high rates of abuse and drunk driving. Regulating an entire system to deter the irresponsible few is illogical and ineffective. The new Saskatchewan deserves better in terms of pricing, availability and selection. Also many restaurants choose not to carry premium products (craft beer especially) because of supply difficulties, this needs to change!

Remain status quo

the Alberta style may be the best way to go in the long run.

Having read the Options Paper fairly closely I get the sense that not much will change with respect to pricing given that the government is not considering changing the ad valorem (percentage based) mark-up rate to a flat rate mark-up. That is really the fundamental problem here. Prices here in SK will always be considerably higher than in Alberta. What's the point of privatizing other than to slash wages of unionized store employees. Privatizing but still adding a 167% to the base cost of any spirit is silly. If the gov't is going to keep that in place then keep the status quo. People will be sorely disappointed when they get overrun with dingy liquor stores but still faced with high prices compared to alberta. All the cons and no pros. I have shopped at the new private liquor store and saw the prices as expensive as the gov't store. What's the point?

Oh and one more thing, having just come back from Europe - what's the big deal with buying wine etc in grocery stores? Please treat the public as adults. Has this been studied to show that restricting access serves some public good?

It is time to move to privatization of liquor stores.

more competition in liquor stores is real business; so many people travel to Alberta to buy liquor because the prices are so much better, and more competitive as you can get different deals in different stores; the social aspect isn't an issue, as people who want alcohol will go wherever they want - having it available in a grocery store will not create any more of a problem

Keep the current public system, with any new stores being private

I strongly believe that our government ran liquor stores are the best , not only for the knowledge the staff bring but the control of substance they provide. There always pleasant and helpful In every aspect. I'm proud to say our government liquor stores are the best.

We don't have off sales in Lintlaw,sk after 8 pm which is a problem for anyone wanting to get a case of beer to take home or whatever so they can safely drink at home

Maybe because of my age but I think the government is remiss in getting out of government liquor stores. Leave well enough alone there is enough places for people to purchase except in the new areas of expanding cities. I think the jobs that are available would be greatly reduced if privitization come to fruition. I have visited a few privetly owned stores in Alberta and the prices can be quite higher than Saskatchewan at some places. Used to be cheaper to buy in Alberta but privitization put an end to that. One thing my niece told me is that there are places that have sales from time to time. There is a liquor store in Vermilion that offers a discount of 10% on Tuesdays and the same size of container I buy in Sk is $7 cheaper.

I am adamantly opposed to any increase in the privatization of liquor sales and the potential closure of existing government owned liquor stores. If they are not profitable, find a way to make them so. The revenue from Crown owned businesses over

time will provide continuing investment opportunities that far exceed the potential funds from a one time sale of thesse outlets and the privatization of liquor sales. I am opposed to the privitization of liquor sales and to the privatization of any other Crown corporations or busninesses.
Liquor cost went up when full privatization took place in Alberta. Private owners need more profit, or as much as they can get. How do you replace lost revenue to government??
In my opinion privatization of any kind is never a good, I have always felt that privatization just makes the rich get richer! Often privatization starts out as small mom & pop enterprises but eventually the bigger corporate stores ie: Costco, Superstores, etc, move in & take over. What happens to all of the SLGA employee's? Do they just end up on the unemployment lines? Small town government store employee's and their families could end up having to move from rural areas to find work, thus affecting enrolment in schools, recreational activities, etc.
I would like to see the government maintain the public system we have while offering a limited number of private retailers. I would also like to see the government loosen the rules applied to the use of "home made" wine for example the ability to serve such products at weddings etc.
I think the government should continue operating publicly owned liquor stores.
I believe that the restrictions placed on Saskatchewan consumers is an unjustifiable paternalism that has no place in modern Canada. Why should Saskatchewan citizens face such strict limitations on the variety and amount of products they can choose to purchase? There are over 1,100 whiskey's available in Alberta. Why are Saskatchewan citizens restricted to the meager handful that are available to them here? There are thousands of excellent craft beers being produced in Canada, and the US, so why are there so few available to us here? What possible justification is there for preventing a capable adult from purchasing products that they desire to have? My foremost concern is not who owns the stores where I can purchase alcohol, but rather that we be permitted to buy, or order, any product that we desire, and not have some bureaucrat telling me that I should be satisfied with what I have available, because that's what they have checked off on their spreadsheet. This level of oversight is insulting and demeaning.
n/a
I feel that the privatization of liquor stores will not only increase the under age and intoxicated people easier access to liquor. I think that other establishments will not be as careful in screening the customers. I also think the safety to staff and customers will also decline.
What would be the point in losing the revenue from the liquor stores and give it to a private owner?
Sent email earlier
No one has discussed the provinces savings by the privitization of retail liquor sales. Or the product selection options if wholesaling was outsourced or an opportunity for private product selection input. Public input does not seem welcome by the SLGA
Would like more competitive pricing, and better selection. Currently, I have to import my own wine varieties and join a wine club to get any kind of decent wordly wine selection. As well, having wine in grocery stores would be a fantastic idea. Right now, I can hardly wait to go to Scottsdale where they have ten times the selection of SLGA in their grocery stores and Costco. I don't see their society or governments crumbling. It makes our current state look terrible.
society has evolved and time for change that aligns with other jurisdictions. like to greater availability such as grocery stores etc.
Keep public stores, they benefit the province and the communities.
Governnment has better priorities than being a retailer of liquor . Revenue should stay the same or go up under privatization . Smaller government should be the goal . Maintaining union jobs is the not reason enough to keep government liquor stores . Let business do business . It is always more sffecient .
Until you can show us that private is more profitable than public I will continue to support public crowns.
keep govt stores...keep the good paying jobs your local govt workers..
Beer, wine and liquor is not a necessity to survive, therefore price and availability is not a concern with me. I appreciate the selection and that the revenues benefit the Province.
I don't want to have to pay more taxes as a result of the stores going private. The move benefits a small few who choose to retail alcohol and will not benefit the consumer when they decide to hike the prices.

Lets sell the Liqour stores the government now owns to private enterprise and catch up with the rest of the world. as long as we maitain the same level of revenues its a no brainer!! I am in favor of implementing either option #2 or #4.
Government should have very little to do with the sale of any product or any type of business. Put teh sale of alcohol into teh hands of teh business community and let the market dictate how it is sold, how the stores are staffed and let the market set the price. It is only since the talk of pricate liquor sales that I have seen anything approaching friendly, helpful customer serive at any SLGA outlet. They have historically been rude, officious and overpaid.
My main priority is reducing harm by the sale of alcohol. I would be horrified to see liquor being sold on grocery store shelves in full view of children. They would be growing up thinking that buying liquor is no different than buying milk! Alcohol abuse, is at least, as bad as tobacco use if not more so. At least people don't die on the highway from smoking!
Completely support fully private
I travel to Alberta quite a bit and find both selection and pricing better there than in Saskatchewan. I also find staff a most government liquor stores in Saskatchewan to be grumpy and more often than not, all congregating in a chat circle rather than working out on the floor providing customer assistance.
Live part time in Alberta and the experience with private retail has been nothing but positive.
I am not informed enough to comment about how the government should use the money or if the revenues should be kept the same but I much prefer a private liquor store over a government owned one. I would rather pay more at willow park (for example since it's the only private one in Regina) than go to a government store because it has a more inviting atmosphere and I get more help from the staff.
Biggest concern is lack of selection, and monopoly of sales within Saskatchewan. SLGA Limitations on variety are unnecessary it does nothing for public safety/well being. We should have any product available at any time. It shouldn't be a big ordeal to order a foreign product and it shouldn't be a hassle to get it promptly.I Feel that because SLGA controls what products are carried the general public suffers. We are limited in selection and can't form a culture of appreciation for the product. I speak as a member of the food and beverage industry and have grown to see my ability to refine tastes and expand knowledge of spirits and liqueurs very limited. and as a result we have a culture of easy consumption. E.G. Rye coke VS Sazarac One is a fast consumed beverage consumed with the sole intention of getting cheap booze into the system and the other is crafting /consuming a high end drink for sipping and appreciation of the work ingredients.
Would like to see a broader selection of rare and imported liquor both available in store and through the SLGB direct contacts. That being said, the direct contacts have already begun diversifying the product lines, albeit buying by the caseload isn't always ideal though. Please keep liquor stores government owned and operated.
We are so behind the times, it is crazy how strict the rules are here.Travel the world, and they are more relaxed
SLGA stores should have later hours of operation and the better selection.
I do not think this is a well-written survey. It is not about whether I want the government to focus on education and health care. I think that is a red-herring question. Of course, I want good education and health care and I think that is a government priority. I do believe that government also has a responsibility for the care of its citizens through controlled sale of alcohol. Public safety is set as a priority with the government sale of liquor. Private business are not interested in public safety. Privatizing the sale of liquor unless accompanied by regulation and appropriate inspection and supervision of adherence to the regulations will present harm to the public. Recent reports on the sale of tobacco products in Saskatchewan has shown that private retailers do not adhere to the regulations as well as they should. There are insufficient inspectors to complete these tasks. I do not believe getting out of the liquor business will be cheaper for the government if they do the job of public safety by having enough enforcement. The enforcement can currently be a part of the appropriately paid staff in our government run stores. We already have enough prevalence of a drinking culture in Saskatchewan. We do not need to increase access. I would support the reduction of alcohol advertising at events as we do with tobacco. Alcohol consumption is connected to all kinds of health and welfare issues. We have a societal obligation to mitigate the harm through some public control. I can access as much alcohol as I want, maybe not as many varieties as I would like but it is certainly no burden to have to go to a liquor store rather than the grocery to pick up any alcohol I might want. I would support government run kiosks within groceries stores if that was cheaper than building new stores.
Our selection of liquor in this province is embarrassing! One private store nearly doubled the amount of SKUs that the entire province had previously listed -- which was also approximately 10% of Alberta's SKU listing! We are NOT all just looking to drink a 24 pack of Boh or dump some Wiser's into a Big Gulp. Our current SLGA sku listing is all about the lowest common denominator - for any niche, high-end, or unusual products I always have to go out-of-province. The private Co-Op store has FINALLY brought some of the selection available elsewhere, obviously after doubling the SKU count,

and I would like more of this to continue.

Being that I buy my specialty high-end, or uncommon purchases elsewhere, and being that these are usually higher-dollar items, this is money the province is missing. If you figure in what people buy elsewhere which this province sees no revenue from, sales would easily increase if the need to buy in Alberta and the USA wasn't such a factor!

Example - at SLGA stores, the highest end bourbons are typically around $49 - Woodford Reserve, etc. Nothing higher is available, as the selection is very dumbed-down. Now, Co-Op carries products up to and above the $90 range and *MANY* of them are often sold-out! There IS a market for these products, but we can't get them due to an outdated system and "safe" product selection which focuses heavily on mediocre big-brandname products that will sell in volume, and take no chances.

I have to go out of province to buy vermouth that isn't a mediocre mass-market brand - Dolin or Carpano Antica. We carry the bottom-shelf brands like Stock, Martini-Rosso, Cinzano -- and nothing else!

I am an enthusiast of classic cocktails, and until the Co-Op store, it was all but impossible to find anything of quality that these classic cocktails required. There is a cocktail renaissance occurring right now, and anyone interested has to shop elsewhere! Myself, I am just an individual, but I have spent THOUSANDS outside of the province in the past year - money I could have spent HERE. Imagine what a cocktail lounge attempting to cater to the craft-cocktail movement would spend here; firstly, they couldn't really exist easily due to the meagre 2000-SKU SLGA lists. Now with the Co-Op pushing for more SKUs, it's possible but there is so much further to go, and it's just starting to get in the right direction.

Why CAN'T we have a listing approaching the 20,000 SKUs of the province right next to us? Why underestimate the population of Saskatchewan and paint us all as having McDonald's-caliber taste in liquors? If we stay public, we DEFINITELY need the system of ordering unlisted items to be overhauled so that future stores (and possibly specialty stores catering to craft beer only, or fine wines only, or high-end spirits and cocktails!) can actually survive and exist!

I sdont like the idea of "friends of the government" profiting from liquor sales rather than all of the citizens through the general revenue fund

I want the profits generated to invest in healthcare, policing, and community supports required as a result of access to alcohol.

There is absolutely no reason for the government to be involved in the sale of alcohol at all.

I never understood why you can buy cigarettes anywhere and alcohol is only available in government owned stores.... I would love the opportunity to purchase a bottle of wine or a case of beer in the grocery store rather than having to drive to a certain location that only sells alcohol. I don't see little towns falling apart like Riverhurst Saskatchewan where you can get the mail, fuel up with gas, buy groceries and buy alcohol all at the same time... oh yea you can buy your fishing or hunting license there too!!

private all the way-grocery stores etc

Reduce liquor regulations regards to events and outdoor beer gardens.

copy what quebec and Bc do.

This will help craven and kinsmen and big events cut the red tape in the city parks and provincial parks in the provinces.

Wascana park could be self funded if it had a 120 room FANTASY convention hotel with mineral springs Part and a KOA campground for 50 campers near douglas park or near siast that allowed liquor on these premises in the city as well as the provincial parks.

For the big events have the police hand out plastic cups for better relations to the patrons. green mile and walking out of the events with their plastic cups and tailgate events.

Promote saskatchewan hard liquor companies and micro-breweries in trade missions.

Develop a rrsp - saskwork venture fund that would help set-up small entreperures in this new ventures and new resturants and beer businesses but the public could get the growth in rrsps as the industry matures.

plus have sask enterprise push for acces to other provinces since its a value added product with the raw product made in saskatchewan rye and barley and malting.penaltze the companies/provinces that are not letting in great western (example)into their provinces.

Stop letting molson an labatts get away of destroying brewing businesses. Have a golden share in each of these liquor business being bought out and shutdown by bigger companies in other provinces.

The businesses can sell to other saskatchewians to keep the businesses in saskatchewan.

Have a tax regime focused on attracting new breweries and established hard liquor and liqures to set-up in saskatchewan and promote ice-wines from maple creek and up at price albert.

We should lower taxes on products made in saskatchewan and raise fees on products from other provinces that are not trading freely with saskatchewan.

Set-up a board to keep track of regualtions and for every new rule BY SLGA they must reduce 2 old regulations. LESS RED TAPE more growth.

The liquor laws have effected parks and businesses and tourist ideas for 50 years.. wascana park and saskatoon and moose jaw parks have been totally effected and its byzantine laws to have a family reunion with beer and wine? they need to change. why can't they have a resturants in the parks..the rents could subdize these places and make them better and less burden on the province.

If i book an event at a park..the park should handle the liquor permit. one -stop event planning quicker business.

Sorry for the rant - i have been to europe and mexico and usa / booze it is not a big deal to them . no more nanny state

It is time for a transition from Government run to private operations. Saskatchewan people are already purchasing product in other Provinces or in the USA due to price point and selection. Eliminate the high operating costs of Government run operations and let the private sector do what they do best run a business.

Govt should not be involved with any business that free enterprise can operate. This is socialism and it is immoral. This includes power , gas, telephones, health care

I find the Union's response to this issue and possible privatization almost offensive. They use media to spread "FEAR" rather than have a meaningful discussion. I understand they have a role to protect their members, but I do not consider Selling Liquor should warrant a "Govt" salary. The salary and benefits should reflect the position and challenge/education requirements to fulfill.

I would love to be able to pick up a bottle wine in the grocery store. Convenience would be nice. Now I have to drive across town to purchase liquor/wine at the Gov't store whereas if it was available in the grocery store it would really nice. It should not have to be a separate building from the grocery outlet.

I currently purchase liquor products in Alberta because they are much cheaper than a government run liquor store anywhere in Saskatchewan.

Our prices need to be more competitive with other markets, we should not always use sin taxes to the degree they are used.

Private liquor stores should be more competitive as they do not need to pay the ridiculously high union wages.

I find the union ads depicting how good they are to be disrespectful of the general public

By changing the way the liquor stores are run right now is saying people shouldnt worry about serving minors or intoxicated customers or getting friendly knowledgeable staff. It would be destroying thousands of peoples careers they have worked very hard to have.This government seems more worried about the rich getting richer and the middle class struggling even more to make ends meet. We are keeping the public safer by monitoring intoxication and minors purchasing alcohol. This government seems to not be concerned about responsibility and the welfare of the public. Really sad actually!!!

Profits from the sale of liquor should be retained by the government for the use and betterment of the people of Saskatchewan, not be given to private companies. The loss of jobs by closing or eliminating public liquor stores would NOT be balanced by jobs in the private sector. This proposal would only result in a decreased revenue stream for the province, to the detriment of our population.

In regards to the amount of stores in any given area... If they are private stores, it should be the same as any other retail establishment, where the strong survive. If too many stores are there, the business may not support them, and some will have to close. At least it would not be the tax dollars in play, it would be private money.

I am a supporter of the current Govt. and so not a fan of crown corp.s.

Having said that, I stongly believe many of our crowns are so intrenched in our economy as to be vital to it. (good paying jobs that would surely be lost income for govt. and loss of supporting businesses).

As for the Govt. Liquor Stores some of this applies and as the Minister has just stated there would be no or little price saving at the retail level,I see no win in change.

Keep it public. The profits go back to the government to keep taxes down.

Please don't privatize the retail of liquor.

I love my gov't liquor store by my house. It's huge, lots of selection, fairly good hours. It's also important to continue providing good jobs to people and keeping the gov't revenue from the sale of liquor.

Until now, prices are way to high when I buy liquor in a private liquor store, especially wine.For the same bottle of wine, I pay 4 to 8 dollars less in Quebec!

Unwise to privatize public assets...do not think you are going to get away with this, next election we are coming for you, Wall

I would like to see the Government Retail Liqour stores enhanced and expanded.
I have had many positive experiences in other countries and provinces with a privatized liquor sales policy. It tends to be cheaper, well regulated, more convenient and better for the economy. It opens up more private sector job opportunities and the competition is healthy.
The wording of the questions is slanted heavily toward allowing more private/total privatization of liquor sales. Keep liquor sales, good jobs, and safe distribution in government hands.
we cannot afford the wages and pensions for these liguor board employees.we should make them private.
Selection in Saskatchewan is so limited with government controls. I shop in other provinces and stock up.
I do not believe that the government should be involved in retailing. I believe that there are many successful demonstrations of private liquor retailing in the province. More so than successful demonstrations of government run retailers. I believe that a future where the Government of Saskatchewan is longer involved in the retailing of liquor is better for customers and our economy.
I strongly believe liquor is a luxury, and has serious impacts on our community and families when it is abused. I believe the province should profit from the sale of liquor so that it can invest this profit back in the social, policing and health services that can be negatively impacted from the consumption of alcohol. I am a 33 year old male, and drink at least 26 units of alcohol a week. I don't think alcohol needs to be more accessible, nor less expensive. I have also lived and worked in Alberta and do not think the service and selection is better there, just cheaper with lower-paid employees. If we are going to sell liquor I think workers should be well paid. It is not an essential commodity in peoples' lives. I support that the people working in liquor stores get paid well, and that the sale of liquor is administered by the government.
I do not believe the government should be manipulating prices in an effort to manage social behaviour. I have had the opportunity to live in toronto, calgary and saskatoon and I see no added social benefit for saskatchewan's high liquor prices.
I don't support a full privatization model. The current model in place provides everyone with the best of both.
The current liquor operation, rules & regulations are too complex with unnecessary expenses - for example if a retailer wants to sell beer from a local micro brewer they are not allowed to get the beer direct from the brewer - it apparently has to be purchased by the govt and sent to a govt warehouse and then the retailer can purchase from there. This adds extra overhead and expense. It should not be a function of government to run liquor retail nor to over regulate it.
For some reason the survey infers that government liquor retailing only costs the government and is not a source of revenue. This is false. We don't have to choose between health care and alcohol - publicly owned and regulated liquor generates revenue for these public services. Bulk purchasing is the real driver behind cost here. The LCBO in Ontario offers products at lower cost and its an even larger publicly owned enterprise. I had to laugh when I walked into a Sobey's liquor store in Alberta and saw no evidence that the private regime is less expense, except for the fact that there were bulk discounts. There's no reason why the public system here in SK couldn't do the same. What we need is a public system that balances consumer demand with a harm-reduction policy. This means having a forwarding thinking management system within the current public enterprises oriented around locally produced goods (craft beers, etc.), more locations, and limited private involvement. The depaneur model in Quebec could be useful to examine here as well.
I am concerned that this is a trial balloon to determine the level of public reaction to the privatization of Saskatchewan's crown corporations. Alcohol is extremely detrimental to our society. As it is now, the profits made come back to the people of the province, and I would support more of this money going into programs and expanded treatment options to deal with the costs of alcohol to our society. I am not saying people shouldn't drink, but we must acknowledge the huge cost. Privatizing liquor sales will mean profits go to the private sector rather than benefiting citizens.
The system should be a fully private like the Alberta model. I believe that there would be a greater benefit to having private retailing in Saskatchewan. I also believe that Saskatchewan residents should have the first chance to purchase the liquor outlets or be offered the ability to buy the former locations. There should also be a limited number of private retail outlets or else it will be a race to the bottom and the person/company with the deepest pockets will win.
More availability of stores and their ability to provide unique variety at good prices that are suitable for region.
I support private liquor stores due to the increased selection they offer and their willingness to take on riskier products like small craft beers. If Government liquor stores offered the same selection and willingness to bring in new products I would happily shop there as my concern is the product - not the place where I am buying it.

Private is the way to go!
I welcome privatization but the discussion should include harsher consequences for drinking and driving, and an improved availability of public transportation and taxi services, with the latter being more market driven (i.e. Uber and other ride share services should be made legal).
I do not see the advantage of removing the stores from government control if the prices of alcohol are not going to change and remain the same. All you do is remove the overhead of operating the stores and move profits above the tax to business owners outside of the province.
The fact that you claim to be raising prices of liquor to "protect" people is complete and utter Every other province in our country sells liquor at costs lower (and in some cases much lower, ie: Quebec, Alberta, BC) than Saskatchewan. We are already paying a ridiculously high price for liquor.
It seems to me that the current system has been evolving since day one, and has been able to offer competitive prices and product variety compared to other juridictions in Canada. This should be considered a success based on our small population and the distances that goods travel to reach the consumer. Prices in a private system will become destablized, Private Urban stores, especially in Regina, will be the only ones to benefit from low transportation costs, while Rural stores will be paying freight costs that are based on mileage, and if Saskatchewan has one obvious defining characteristic, it is mileage. Consumers who shop based on pricing will have one more reason to travel to urban centres, which will have a negative impact on rural Saskatchewan. The provincial government should continue to focus on rural economic developement and population growth that will create larger markets for private enterprise to develope naturally. Forcing privatization in this case seems to have a lot of negative possibilities for a marginally informed population.
The price may be cheaper in the city but once you go to any other community the price would go off the charts. Sale of alcohol to minors and intoxicated people would go up because private will sell to anyone to make a profit. People should not have to work 2 or 3 jobs to make a living. The money that the public liquor stores already go to roads, hospitals and education, etc.
- Government policy can be applied to an industry regardless of ownership of the businesses in it. - There is no problem with Government competing with business for business, but that should be at all levels from wholesale to retail. - I am in favour of expanded private retail options.
Status Quo
While pricing is an issue, the lack of decent selection from the government stores makes them somewhat less than ideal. I have a taste for specialty tequilas that cannot be purchased here in any way other than by the case. As I enjoy my drinks in moderation, a case of any one brand would likely last me many years. This is the biggest reason I stock up on such products when I'm out of the province.
Privatization naturally will bring competitiveness - but it is a slippery slope. I don't think we would see a larger increase in sales, people have enough options currently to access their liquor needs on any given day of the week. A major concern would be the governments lost revenue, that is allocated already for a variety of items through out our province, if we privatize, some of that revenue would be lost, then what will it be added too...fuel, food or other essentials? Liquor as with tobacco is a luxury item, to tax those that chose to consume it is a good way to supplement the Sask Government coffers as well as ensure we maintain our way of lives in our Great Province. Careful consideration needs to be given before making a full privatization system in Saskatchewan. As a previous restaurant and hotelier, what would the effect be to these smaller establishments in our small towns if everyone can have a private liquor store license...and who is going to monitor that they are operating ethically. Again added cost that would come with enforcement - really - more cost is not what we need. That is what I see coming from this. Similar to the Gun Registry - sounds good, but at what cost.
The idea of privatization interests me the most because of te lack of diversity and selection of alcool available at the slga. Also the knowledge of the staff on hand in store is minimal. As someone who deals with the private import section of the slga on a daily basis, I can tell you that is extremely disorganized and frustrating to deal with.
Our prices are too high, the U.S. prices are way lower and they don't have any higher social issues than Canada. Their government still finds ways to bring in income without increasing taxes on liquor.
Close private stores& lower taxes on booze.
The liquor retailing system in Saskatchewan is fine the way it is!

Underage people already have to easy access to liquor. Thank you
I think the revenue that we stand to lose as Saskatchewan citizens is potentially much greater than any savings you hope to achieve as a result of privatizing liquor sales. What you haven't measured into your cost-benefit analysis is the loss of good stable jobs within all of our Saskatchewan communities.
Alcohol sales do not need to be opened up any more than they are now. Increasing access to alcohol via more locations and potentially lower prices would only increase use. This increased use would only exacerbate the social consequences of over indulgence such as decreased productivity due to lost work days, health problems, violence, sexual assaults, death and injury from drunk driving, as well as the social ills of extreme addiction. Alcohol should be a more tightly controlled substance that is not so widely promoted to our youth.
Profits from the sales of alcohol should 100% remain a public revenue put towards health and social programs. We need the revenue to be able to offset for the amount tax dollars being funnelled to the resources used to exhaustion by the people whom Alcohol has affected and created related social issues that tax our health and social institutions.
SK Liquor & Gaming is completely out of touch with limiting products to what they think the public wants. Allow private retailers to bring in what customers want not what SGLA thinks they want. Leave the Government run liquor stores in place but open retail business oportunities to expand the product lines available in grocery stores, convenience stores and/or stand alone privately owned business's. Duplicate Quebec. They have the SAQ which is government controlled liquor outlets. Grocery stores and convenience stores sell beer and wine all in the same area as groceries, very convenient.
I feel this is an issue long overdue but i think the decision is within the providence of the provincial government and not a ballot decision. Ballot decisions give rise to "fringe" elements from mobilising a campaign that would negatively affect undecided people. This is a business decision it has nothing to do with moral religious or social impacts.
I would like to see government liquor stores phased out as employees retire. In other words, don't hire anyone to work in a liquor store from here on in. Option #4 appears to fit what I would like to see happen.
I wish you republican types would let people make a decent living and not your pals.If there is no one left to make a decent living then this poll is of no use as no one will be able to buy liquor any way.What good is it to give the money to the owners or big business and leave the rest of us with crumbs. Minimum wage ring a bell.
I support a fully privatized system, including allowing liquor to be sold from grocery stores. I believe that the government should stay out of retailing & wholesaling liquor. Add a tax/minimum price if necessary, but allow retailers to make their own agreements with a distributor. I do believe that looking down the street & seeing 5 signs advertising different liquor stores should be avoided, either through restricting exterior signage or restricting the number of stores in a given area
Profits from an industry such as liquor should remain in Sask. for the benefit of the people of Sask.
All liquor board stores should be sold to the private sector, the government can still generate revenue from the tax on all liquor but does not need to run the stores directly. There is a lot of alcohol purchased out side of the province due to the monopoly the province has on liquor, and therefore the province receives no revenue at all.
I think prices here are high compared to what I have seen and heard of in other provinces. We expect people to make money when you provide a service/product but from reading the mark up is crazy. People will pay what you ask cause they want it but think a mark up should be more reasonable. My concerns would be if they did drop where would they pick up additional revenues as I dont buy a tonne of alcohol so I wouldn't see a huge difference out of my pocket but some would.
just allow the current off sale sites to sell any type of liquor that they choose and leave the current lb stores as is. as new stores are required allow private stores to open.
I like the variety and lower cost of wine and beer in provinces such as Alberta and B.C. At times wine of the same brand can be $10 less per bottle. The selection of craft beer from smaller breweries across Canada is much higher in BC and Alberta.
The unionized employee factor of the current government owned stores is very costly. As always, the private sector would take this and run with it, making it successful for themselves and providing employment for many more staff in so doing. To be fair to the current government store employees, a gradual transition to the private sector would be in order. Go Saskatchewan Go ! ! !
I believe that private stores would not benefit this province.

Making liquor more accessable and keeping later hours would result in more domestic violence and traffic accidents. The public is also being mislead as to the CHEAP pricing of products. This is has been reflected though Alberta stores.
To put forth the idea that an over-payed stock shelfer is safer because they are a government employee is ludicrous. Private stores with a financial stake in compliance would be safer. ALberta has both great and crappy rip-off liquor retailers, and that's fine by me: Coke costs $1.99 at the Co Op and 3.99 at 7-11, but you don't see Government ran Soda Pop stores! On the other hand, no one is dying under the current model, so getting rid of it (which is the best idea) is not a rush-project, a simple phase out to completely privately owned (albeit provincally regulated) stores would be "swell".
It's ridiculous that our government is a retailer of alcohol and that we cannot buy liquor in the grocery stores of our major cities. I can buy wine, beer, spirits in the grocery outlets in small town SK, like Elbow and Delisle, but not in Saskatoon or Regina - how crazy is that! Let private business sell alcohol; government can still have their revenue and consumers will have more choice and convenience. Please let alcohol be sold in grocery stores. SK needs to modernize. Saftey of minors and government revenues can still be maintained in a totally private system. And please don't make me journey to yet another store to pick up wine for that special supper! Families are busy enough without more travel. thanks for asking! :)
Just as with any other product that has the potential to create significantly negative outcomes, all of society - individuals, organizations, government - have a responsibility to ensure, through strong control measures, safe and proper distribution and consumption. That responsibility has to be at the forefront, not laissez-faire attitudes and not profit motives. Introducing more opportunities for a third party to enter into the equation compounds exponentially the potential for loss of control and safety. For example, there are many more news stories of people who get into trouble through their interactions with alcohol at a bar or lounge or off-sale, than at a government liquor store. I would insist on having the right people in the right place at the right time, and by that I mean qualified, trained, experienced and motivated personnel, to ensure that alcoholic products are provided to only the right people, at the right place, at the right time.
The research is unequivocal that low prices and high availability of liquor creates social and personal harms in communities. I appreciate that the government has the control to regulate the price of alcohol and the location of the stores. The direct and indirect costs of alcohol in Canada outweigh the revenue accrued and, unless SK is an anomaly, I assume it is the same in this province. Without portions of alcohol revenue going back to the government for the purposes of health care, policing etc. then that net loss is even more pronounced.
This is a question of choice which there is currently little freedom of choice. Government should not be in business and rather focus on infrastructure and public health. To me private liquor stores are well overdue and provide freedom of choice and a source of revenue to the citizens of the province. I am not concerned about the crown stores as they are out of date and inefficient. Also individuals that have social issues associated with alcohol will source it regardless, privatization will do nothing in this regard.
I don't think Saskatchewan should adopt the private liquor retailing model. Cities such as Calgary are over saturated with liquor stores and as such, I think the regulation of liquor suffers since there aren't consistent standards and policies to follow amongst establishments. If the Government is concerned about the social responsbility aspect of alcohol in the province, I think it's best to keep the SLGA stores. Expanding liquor retailing establishments will only increase the availability of alcohol and some communities are better off without more access access to these products.
I went to the sobeys saskatoon location really very excited to try it. I was dissapointed with the pricing it was a lot higher than the government run liquor store in my area. I was not impressed with the wine tasting station as I could only try 2 types of wine. The staff were not nearly as knowledgeable about the products as again my government operated store. Will I go back to this store? No I won't! Because of service knowledge and price. The staff at sask liquor stores are way more knowledgable and helpful than the competitio.
I don't see a reason to change. Going private will open the door to lower paying positions at the stores. The money made will not go to health care, roads etc. This is another cash grab for our government who are already making a fortune from the sale of alcohol. We are charging up to 50% and more and most of this is tax. Why fix what isn't broken!
I like the models from Quebec, USA, Mexico and Europe.
I lived in Alberta when they went with the private liquor stores, and I think that was a disaster. So many people wanted to climb on the "band wagon" and hoped to make lots of money, but it just didn't happen.
Customers should have the choice to decide where they purchase liquor. Competition provides varying prices.
I miss the system in Alberta, lots of locations, open longer hours and more selection. Privatization is the way to go, get your money through taxes. Make it easier for micro-brews and smaller companies to get their foot in the door.
Have you considered the income tax revenues that would be generated from private retailers. Would this not off-set some of the liquor tax.

You might encourage people to shop at home (SK) instead of going west (AB) or south(USA) How much costs would be saved in maintaining existing buildings, and utilities paid to operate these buildings. It is about time overpaid government employees earn a real living.
I see no need to change the current system.
I feel that we should move towards a more US or European style. I would like to have the option of picking up a bottle of wine when I do my grocery shopping, rather than search for the nearest Government run store. I travel to Ireland on a relatively frequent basis. The system they have there seems to run quite efficiently with some built in safeguards. I also live in a small community which does not have any liquor outlets other than the local hotel bar. It would be nice to be able to buy a bottle of wine rather than drive 30 minutes to the next town over.
I don't purchase very much liquor BUT when I am in alberta mostly Calgary I purchase items I want from either Costco or Superstore liquor outlets. I find the prices much better in Alberta I also feel that employees whom work in sask liquor outlets are so overpaid for what they do. Cut their wages and pass the savings onto the consumer
I support a govt that keeps liquor sales public. This is a huge cash revenue for the people of Sask. As well good jobs for the citizens. I doubt private citizens like Sobeys will be paving roads or paying healthcare costs anytime soon.
Government should regulate, not be involved in sale of alcohol.
I BELIEVE PRIVATIZED LIQUOR STORES WILL CREATE MORE JOBS FOR THE BLUE COLLAR COMMUNITY RATHER THAN TRYING TO BEAT DOWN THE DOOR OF A GOVERNMENT JOB. THE PROVINCE WILL STILL BENEFIT FROM THE CREATION OF PRIVATIZED STORES AND CAN HELP BUILD COMMUNITIES. AS TERRIBLE AS THAT SOUNDS.
Leave our crowns alone
By going the privatization rout you take away decent paying government jobs (starting in the mid to high teens) for minimum wage jobs. This creates more jobs but decreases the standard of living for those who work in the liquor industry. There are already enough low paying retail positions as it is and privatization would lower the provinces GDP per capita.
There are successful models across Canada to prove that other provinces have changed and are successful. Saskatchewan should seize the opportunity to change, rather than hold on to a system that from my experience/opinion is unpopular with the people in Saskatchewan.
should privatize the wholesale side as well
The current model works just fine. Attempting to fix something that isn't broken is fundamental in creating a disaster.
The Alberta system is the way to go. Allow for a free market to exist and the service, selection, convenience, and cost to the consumer will all improve. It is also my understanding that the provincial revenue from liquor sales has actually increased in Alberta since the switch took place in the 1990s. I don't see the downside.
Strongly support increasing number of private stores, including grocery chains. They should be allowed to open longer hours, in order to sell beer and wine at the customers convenience.
It should stay public, for public revenue.
With oil revenue set to decline, your cabinet better find ways to diversify our economy instead of pretend-ideological pet projects that transfer public wealth into friendly familiar private hands.
It would be a mistake to privatize the current system; there are and were no benefits from the Alberta model. You are only proposing taking profits never mind tax dollars out of the system. A greater plan would be to find efficiencies in your government liquor supply chain.
Product selection in Saskatchewan is terrible compared to that in Alberta and in other places where government involvement is minimized. Trying to get special orders is difficult even for bars, thus they experience difficulties in consistently stocking specialty beers that I appreciate. There is no need for government warehousing being a bottleneck to the availability of a wide selection of products.
Government should focus on policy, oversight and regulation, not operation.
Would be nice to have better selection of diffrent brands or more exotic brand as in alberta. There you can find higher end

tequila or scotch that you would normaly only see in mexico or online, or in a scotch review. Its a pain when you can research a brand or here about it but not be able to get it in saskatchewan. we have no access to this localy or online as we also cant purchase it online in saskatchewan or canada from the states. This is the same for beers and the more uniqu ones or indipendat ones are becoming more popular. I think a greater selection will see people drinking more quality than quantaty. I enjoy tying new thing and when I find something realy good sharing it with friends and family. This is hard to do with the current outdated system. Why punish the majority of people that drink responsably.
Why the government operates any retail locations for anything boggles my mind. I support SLGA being the wholesaler, but not the retailer. My view is that the government should stop creating monopolies, and stop competing (or excluding) private businesses and capitalizm. Selection and price and location and hours of operation are all issues, true. The larger ones are the government controlling competition and paying employees to run stores...why is the government involved in this?
Prviatetize all liquor stores!! Gov't should not be selling poison!!
Current retail system works well. Privatization only concentrates wealth in fewer (politically connected) hands. This is a boondoggle, not motivated by the public interest.
Keep the status quo but allow a few more private retailers to offer more specialty and variety. Allow price competition including a Costco outlet to provide the best prices for Saskatchewan consumers.
We have a very good system in place now. There is no benefit to changing it. The only benefit will to a small business group. This survey appears to be engineered for your desired result! So much for transparency in policy and change.
I don't believe taxes from alchohol purchases should be used to subsidize medicare or any other government program. That means that people who don't purchase alchohol don't help support programs available to all residents. That is not fair and equitable for all citizens.
I think there should be a transition phase to go from government owned to private stores. If need, there could be a few government stores left but the majority should be private. There is no need for government to be involved in the retail side of selling liquor. Let the market decide how many stores and where they should be located. The government owned stores now seem to have employees that don't really care about the customer. When it is someone's business, I believe you will see better service.
One thing missing from the discussion is how change will impact existing licensees. The opportunity for new business is great but the changes should give ALL licensees the opportunity to generate revenue opportunities by applying the wholesale discount to all. That is the best way to prevent complaint about companies from outside Sask. swooping in to gobble up liquor stores. The homegrown businesses will fill in the market need. On the other side, there is too much discussion on the number of liquor stores in a given area being regulated. The market itself will set the number that are viable in an area. Too many, and some will not have sufficient sales thus closing. Too few and someone will open new ones to fill the need. In response to the NDP's commentary that SLGA can change and improve to accommodate public desire, they've had their chance and never used it for liquor reform. There's zero reason to give them a second (or 3rd, 4th, or 5th) chance to find common sense.
I don't believe in privatizing our crown companies because sooner or later it will come back to hurt the people of Saskatchewan.
Private stores should be able to carry more selection, not only the selections that are in the government stores.
What a bias survey , you worded most questions in a way that would only support your line of thinking . People are not a naive as you think.
The government should seriously consider getting out of wholesaling liquor as well!!! Government has no business in the BOOZE business!!
Governments should not dictate this type of business. Don't put caps on stores or minimum prices. The free market will decide these things naturally and more effectively than government intervention. Sell all current government owned stores to a private buyer, and use the sale proceeds to pay down the provincial debt.
Private is never cheaper in the long run!!!
There are a lot of social ramifications to the retailing of liquor. The liquor stores should all be part of a crown corporation, so that all aspects of such sales can be controlled (as much as possible) in the general interest of all the citizens of Saskatchewan.
Grocery stores are for groceries. Liquor in stores etc will just temp people to drink more plus stores will get robbed. Since the liquor stores are already owned by the government I think they should keep on . Plus the government needs all the income they can get . Hopefully just because they are g workers they aren't being over paid like so many g workers are .

the way they spend . Never do save enough for a rainy day ! Most of the people I talk to have the same view .It would be nice if the government actually listened to the people that vote for them .
I like the liquor retail business just the way it is . The customer service in the gov't stores is beyond my expectations and I enjoy my experience when I shop there .
I strongly believe that private liquor stores would be a mistake for the province of Saskatchewan.
If you go for the RFP option then it should have a time limit and not drag past an election term.
Privatize get rid of overpaid union employees in govt run liquor stores
There should only be private run liquor stores in sask.
I fully support private liquor stores. Of further importance, however, are getting rid of the huge taxes associated with liquor sales. The "social harm" argument in favour of keeping the taxes/price of liquor high is a farce. In my line of work, I see all the time that the high price of beverage alcohol only makes those who can't afford it resort to other options - hairspray, mouthwash, etc. Those alcohols are dangerous for consumption and are not meant to be consumed as beverages. It's extremely shortsighted to think that high liquor prices actually help people - any additional government revenue does not justify it. I cannot imagine the health care costs of dealing with some of the problems people get as a result of consuming non-beverage alcohol. I would rather poor people or young people (or whoever) have access to cheap beverage alcohol that is safer to drink than have to resort to other forms of it to get their buzz. These people are going to conusme it either way - whether it's a bottle of vodka or a bottle of hairspray. But right now, the government tax policies force these people into unhealthy options. And for the people who can afford it, the high prices are just an annoying cash grab by the government. Government - get your revenues from other sources leave alcohol to the private market.
We need to have a bit more of a free market. The availability of the different companies and brands should be chosen by the business based on consumers. Hours need to be expanded as to the availability. Pricing needs to be less regulated although I do see a need to help protect those who will abuse it because it is cheaper but we need to recognize price isn't the only factor in why people abuse it so why should everyone pay extra because of that? Also liquor laws need to be closer to elsewhere in the world where you can carry and drink alcohol outside of certain areas such as walking down the street or after a ball game having a beer at the diamond, however there needs to be a line to protect young kids.
Staff presently at government run stores have very little knowledge about products other than where they are in the store.I travel to Alberta regularly and purchase alcohol to bring home due to the vast price difference.
We have traveled extensively and there is no reason for the Government to be in the Liquor store business. If the Government regulates it that's enough Government involvement. To be able to buy liquor in a grocery store is very convenient there is no reason to make a special trip just to buy Liquor.
The government should not be in the liquor business. Like other business, it should be free enterprise. The inability of private stores and restaurants to carry a wide selection due to regulations, distribution issues and cost of distribution is not consumer friendly. I do not believe that by privatizing liquor stores and making it competitive that it will lead to more drinking because it is cheaper nor will young people have more access as SGEU claims. They (private stores) are just as responsible for checking for ID as the SLGA.
Better prices. More competition. And Staff that know the product. Keep the Government Stores where there needed.Ie rural Saskatchewan. Where the private sector would not be able to turn a profit.But they provide a service too the rural area.large City Centres leave that too private business. Let the building lease run out and close the Government stores.
Firstly, I have never spent a dollar in my life buying liquor in Saskatchewan. In saying this, I believe any proposed changes from the present status should be decided by the residents of Saskatchewan in a secret ballot referendum. That is how our forefathers decided on the present system.I do not agree with how Alberta implemented their present system, cruelly throwing many employees out of their jobs for no justifiable reason. Any changes that impact long time employees must be implemented in stages and in a fair and decent manner.
I fully support a privatized system. I care most about increased selection and reduced prices which, in my experience, are much more likely to occur in a privatized system.
Why in the hell would you privatize more? Is this the beginning of you doing stupid, ridiculous things to our Province, get a life!!!
I like using the special order desk to purchase products, but I feel that there is significant room to improve the consumer experience. I would like to be able to browse a catalogue of products, rather than having to ask about product availability for

each and every item. As a frequent patron of the system, I would also find it very convenient to be able to place orders online, start to finish rather than the current process of ordering, deposit payment, and information exchange. I would enjoy the experience much more if I could log in with my SLGA entity as an identification credential, browse a product catalogue, and place an order electronically, including a secure deposit payment transaction system.

I feel this improvement would serve the consumer, and provide ample opportunity for SLGA to expand product offerings as well as providing valuable feedback on product demand that does not rely on commercial exposure, product placement, or management guesswork. Not everyone seeking a specific product is aware of the special order system, some do not enjoy the experience of ordering, and many do not actively inquire about products which interest them.

BDL (commercial only) and retail in other provinces offer electronic cataloging/ordering systems such as this, and I feel SLGA and the consumer would both win should an implementation be made here.

Alberta did this. They lost billions in revue since. Alberta since has debate about this and even has consider slowly going back to government owned stores.

I believe that the system in place now works well in Saskatchewan. It has been my understanding that monies from the so-called sin taxes, of alcohol and other things all goes to benefit the Highways, roads, Healthcare, and education as well as other areas. The revenue from the sales of alcohol also go towards the above mentioned areas, to my understanding. Even though, the warehouse would remain within Government control and profit, retail sales help not only that fund, but also the benefit of knowing under a Government mandated liquor policy that the staff, and all involved in scope or out, are trained and act in a responsible and effective way thru the proper sales and checks of ages, not over selling when its clear that a person has had enough, and with great customer service. I feel that private enterprize will look out for their own bottom lines mostly and sales will over rule safety. Although I understand that people may tend to think that privatized stores and areas would mean better prices and such, I am happy to know that if there is lower priced items that they are usually items to bring the shopper in, a good markewting strategy only, all stores in retail services do this such a big box stores etc. I am never fooled by this. I think that there will be alot of people out of work yet again if this is to go to private enterprize as private stores will hire people, work them how ever many hours they can and probably for minimal wages. Right now, there are good paying jobs within liquor jobs and other crown jobs, lower paying jobs is going to lessen the economy more and how is this going to help our province? I think the sales of liquor should remain the same as it has been, with franchises and offsales, as well as government regulated and run liquor stores.

liquor venders have existed for years in rural saskatchewan it's about time the rest of the province realize that retail work is retail work, this is a product offered for sale and should be treated that way. Wages and pensions offered to stock boys shouldn't bankrupt the province, LBS offers a minimum wage service and their employees should be compensated accordingly

i think all selling of booze in saskatchewan should be government run as in going to none government run you will see robberies in stores and more and more problem with drunk people in a public place, Keep it the way it is and stop turning saskatchewan and canada into more and more americanised. If i wanted to live in the united states i would move

The government should privatize liquor stores. They have no business running liquor stores.

1) government stores are great. The only problem is how they are operated. Lack of quality craft beer and employee knowledge

2) storage of the beer. Unpasteurized beer needs to be kept cold and out of light. Craft beer should be in the coolers with their lights off

3) homebrew wine and beer should be allowed at private events at rented places such as weddings.

When you look at the numbers, the move towards privatization in Alberta and BC has not been of great benefit to consumers, despite the constant rhetoric to the contrary. While access is improved (a benefit to many, certainly) the mean costs have increased, selection is typically REDUCED and good jobs are turned into lower paying jobs. A benefit to Sobey's? Yes. A benefit to consumers? Hardly.

The government should put a priority in making as much as possible off the sale off alcohol...and keeping control over it.

The government as made buying tobacco products more difficult. I am a smoker but I do understand the reasoning behind this move. I find it strange that the government wants to make liquor easier to purchase when liquor kills as many people as smoking. I firmly believe changing the rules will hurt the people of this province.

I don't think that we need to be paying unionized workers top dollar to work at a liquor store. I think that the province should manage the ordering and distribution of alcohol but leave the actual retail side of it to private companies.

Personally I feel it should be left as status quo I see no reason public stores that just pAy their employees minimum wages and only a single person benefits. Their is nothing wrong with someone making a living wage. This government seems to have an anti wage employee agenda to benefit business

Leave things as is. If it works don't change it. The only thing citizens gain from private liquor stores is more choices nothing else.

Same price in Alberta and Saskatchewan for the same bottle of wine. Current situation has more than enough choices for me
I have been in both private stores in Saskatoon. It is comparing apples to oranges. The Co-op is the premium private - tons of products - beautiful shopping environment. The Sobey's while new and clean, does not carry as many products as a full line gov't store. Of course, they have their super sales, loss litres, on 20 products - great savings, if it's in stock... and you pay more for other products that aren't on sale (they cost less in the gov't stores). I support a few more private stores, definitely NOT the open Alberta Private style. I have shopped "Alberta's stores". You have to go to 4 different stores to get what you want as opposed to getting your 4 products at 1 gov't store. Also, this gov't needs to close more of of the 75 gov't stores, the bottom 15 stores that are probably costing us money. I feel bad for the staff of those stores, but perhaps they can move into other gov't stores.
I understand not building more stores, but I disagree in handing more business to big box stores. Co-op is a retailer I could support.
no more private liquor stores. If I buy liquor I want to buy it from myself at the SLGA. Please increase the service at the SLGA to include wine and liquor specialty shops like in Ontario.
The current set up for liquor sales is adequate -if it ain't broke, don't fix it. We do not need any more minimum wage jobs in this province. Please focus on something more important to the people of this province and halt the race to the bottom...
I used to play hockey with the Regina Police Service Team as well as the RCMP team at the barracks in Regina. The comment made by officers of both Law Enforcement Agencies that if Liquor Stores in Saskatchewan ever became privatized and I quote "You can start digging graves!"
I support sales in increased number of locations. would be happy if grocery stores limited to beer/wine not hard liquor am concerned about wages of employees who sell liquor dropping to minimum wage. government should regulate liquor prices and staff wages. Should focus on eliminating waste due duplication of trying to run multiple types of liquor sales don't care if private but need regulation. was a real shame when Canada post moved postal services to convenience stores where minimum wage workers were providing postal services rather than good paying jobs
SLGA is the way to go but we need some SLGA wine shops. No more private liquor stores they only help corporations to make money not the people of Saskatchewan
The fact that it has taken us until 2014 to start seriously discussing this is silly. Government belongs in utilities, health and law....not liquor.
I feel that government should be focused on essential services rather than the retail sale of alcohol. Government control of liquor in the province strikes me as an antiquated vestige of the old temperance movement and is completely unnecessary in today's world. Taxation and laws regarding liquor should remain the realm of government but distribution should be solely the realm of the private sector.
I am in support of keeping government ran liquor stores because I do like the fact that the income is put back into the community. However, I am also a beer enthusiasts, and I feel that sask government liquor stores do not care one bit about their product. Thus leaving me at a neutral point between either keeping government ran or government ran and more privately owned liquor stores. The government liquor store workers lack passion for the product, knowledge on the product, and they also lack respect for their consumers. There is a true need for a passionate take-over on the beer selection, especially the craft beer selection. There is a need for more product, better products, and better care for the products (certain lighting can 'skunk' beer). The stores are run very lack luster concerning the beer selection. I feel that the current government run stores cater specifically to the crowds that like to drink cheep beer and a lot of it fast with the specific purpose to get drunk. Government should consider catering more to the crowds that like to drink a craft beer here or there for the taste. If government stores can turn themselves around and find some passion for their product, then I do feel that there is a true need to turn to more private locations. Cheers!
I would like to see more selection of whiskeys and bourbons like in the USA I'm tired of the same old stuff I want to explore new tastes. And I also would like it to be a bit more affordable I work all week have lots of bills and would like to enjoy my drink a few times a month a little cheaper so I can enjoy my days off and still have money for other things.
His blinded vision of destructing that upon which our Saskatchewan was built is reprehensible. I support our SLGA employees. They are knowledgeable and friendly unlike our experience with the Willow liquor store. I am a retired Saskatchewanian not associated with any union.

Sincerely,
Deregulate it. Allow proper economic markets, supply and demand determine product selection and price.
Putting a cap on the markup of expensive liquors (like scotch) would allow SK stores to be more competetive with AB stores. Balance revenue for other services with consumer demand. I certainly won't pay over $100 for a bottle that I can get in AB for under $60. Think of the revenue you are losing. How much of the inter-provincial spending could you keep in the province if you balanced price a bit better? And we don't need a high paid provincial employee to ask for ID. They fact our unions (in other provinces too) make that argument is insulting to our intelligence as a society. If a clerk at 7-11 can ask for ID to sell cigarettes, I'm sure s/he can do likewise for the sell of liquor. An appropriate fine for selling to minors should be a good deterrent. Maybe full out privatization is the right thing; maybe not. But the tight control we have now isn't good for the consumer. Let the market decide where stores should be, when they should be open, and the prices they charge (within reason, considering minimums).
Please don't privatize. Alcohol needs to be controlled and that won't happen if owned by the public.
With the profit from public stores you could build and maintain new liquor stores with no extra government "dollars" and still have profits for government coffers. I'd much rather the people of Sask receive the profits from liqour sales rather than private companies. Keep it public.
Government should get out of the business of selling liquor.
I would like to see the variety , especially for wine, increased, not only from other countries, but, from our Canadian wineries as well.pricing is less important to me, I don't think we need to be as low as US pricing, but,more standard pricing with our bordering provinces would be nice.
I think Government should discontinue the sale and distribution of all alcohol beverages and allow the private sector to step up to the plate and manage and create many jobs and business ventures ,Private business is welcome my a mile as investors move in and expand this market and create jobs in many areas as well as real estate...i would also like to see the age lowered to 18 as this law now does not collaborate with being an responsible adult ,you can fight in a war and be an adult at 18 but you can not have a beer ,This is not fair or right and could prove to be against rights and freedoms as an adult in Saskatchewan ...while we are at it i wish they would sell off a lot more areas of government departments that are no longer needed ,example ,phone ,Auto parts ,casinos ,insurance company ,etc ,etc ...thank you .
Regulation needs to be maintained and the sale of alcohol needs to be heavily taxed in order to offset the costs alcohol creates in the health sector.
keep liquor stores public!
Consider the models in B.C., Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec in our new mandate. Also consider the models of liquor retailing in Europe -- particularly in the Scandinavian countries . . . Really, the bottom line is maintaining crucial revenues to the province and expanding revenues as we move forward. Enhance the system we have in place now and Saskatchewan residents will benefit in accordance . . . Don't lose this so easy and so manageable benefactor
When and if the government decides to privatize...what happens to the displaced employees'...what will be the cost to private stores with theft,,,what will be the cost to Saskatchewan taxpayers with increase alcohol consumption if there are more stores open later and readily available at later hours.....detox...rehab...hospital costs....incarceration...the sask party needs to rethink their mandate
Seems to work well in Alberta and other Provinces where wine and beer can be purchased in grocery stores.
I don't feel that the government should make a lot of money off of liquor sales. What does that say to consumers. Don't they take enough of our money through taxes!!!
the government should get out of the liquor business entirely, retail and wholesale. also home distillation of alcohol should be legalised.
Keep the LBs but allow grocery stores to sell liquor. It would be so convenient in this busy day and age.
If the SLGA themselves looked at the private run liquor stores in Saskatchewan and Alberta (Liquor Depot/Wine and Beyond), and ran a similar business this survey would never be an issue. People would be satisfied with liquor sales. Instead the SLGA didn't adapt to the changing demands of the customer and now the consumer sees the benefits of the private store.
Don't privatize the liquor stores, make the government ones better.

Allow liquor inside stores/gas stations. Taxes are too high.
I wholeheartedly agree with total privatization of the liquor system in Saskatchewan. Perhaps the government would gain even more support from the public if it pursued a method of taxing private retailers a set percentage of profits in order to contribute to alcohol rehabilitation facilities and methods? This would, of course, be only if a total privatization plan was adopted. Just a thought.
Just leave it the way it is. It is working well and provides the government with revenue.
More organic drinks.
Alcohol is a drug with known and quantifiable harms. As such, it should not be treated as a "normally" retailed commodity. The government should maintain ownership: both in the distribution and in the revenue collection. As well, should any other product come onto the market that requires government oversight (e.g., e-cigarettes, bath salts, marihuana, etc), an infrastructure will already be in place to deal with such a situation.
I think it is ridiculous that every time we go to Alberta we bring back wine and other types of alcohol by the case to save money and for better selection. It makes me angry that I know others do this also. We do not drink a lot - never have, never will. However I don't appreciate paying a lot more for a product that is much less expensive right next door. I also do not appreciate the lack of variety and I feel that the government has no place in retailing liquor. This is another reason why so many left for Alberta years ago. It's time to fix that huge disparity between our provinces. I am an adult and do not need the government to be involved in selling me alcohol. Thank you and please, please make needed changes.
My only concerns are government revenue, alcohol selection, and price. Government revenue - The government should retain the same amount of revenue from alcohol sales to ensure continued and potentially expended social programs and services. Alcohol selection - I enjoy a wide varieties of beers and scotches and the selection in government stores, for reasons unknown to me, has an extremely reduced selection. Pricing - I am a student with a limited budget and who unfortunately enjoys the occasional glass of scotch. Scotch is naturally going to be extremely expensive. I would appreciate the occasional sale, just as a common business practice to attract customers. (student discounts anyone). With all that being said, alcohol is a luxury and should be taxed at a higher rate than other items just as a good tax policy. However, I just want to make sure that Saskatchewan doesn't have the highest prices for alcoholic products due to arbitrary price setting.
I prefer the Alberta system of liquor retail.
I wish to see an Alberta style deregulation with Quebec style availabilty
It would be great to see Government owned liquor establishments offer a lower price on alcohol. Not only will this prevent people with little to no income from drinking mouthwash and such, it will also be a great way to compete with privatized liquor stores. Increasing the variety of beer and wine would also entice people to shop at Government liquor establishments more often.
100% believe in privatization of liquor retailing in the province.
I am Not a regular user of the SLBS, but it would be nice to have more variety in the liquor I do purchase.
You should consider delivering alcohol
Having grown up in Calgary for the majority of my life, my experience with privatized liquor stores really demonstrated the limits of the government owned stores in Saskatchewan once I moved here. Competitive pricing is important and we only have two options here: expensive (government owned stores) or really expensive (off-sale). The variety in pricing as well as hours of operation would be very beneficial. I think the government can keep its stores but also introduce some privatized and franchised stores as well.
My first impression is in how flawed the survey is. It does not take into account the way the system is currently operating.for example , the question that the government should focus on other priorities like health instead of running liquor stores does not take into account that the profit made from liquor stores goes into health and roads. Also the question asking if government should maintain its revenue does not allow a person to answer that they should be allowed to increase their revenue. If this survey was to be really fair there should be a better question selection. Shame on the authors.
I have nothing against government stores at all. The employees there have been great in my experience. However, liquor is one product among many that I purchase on a regular basis and I'd like to see increased innovation in how this occurs. I think that this innovation best comes when the government monopoly on liquor sales is reduced and business can compete with government stores to serve customers, such myself, better. Thank you very much for taking the time to listen to my input and I hope that the results of this survey are informative/actionable.

It is a dream to be able to walk into SOBEY's,etc. like Ralphs in the US and buy wine!
its nice to have input!!!!
My greatest concern is the government tax on alcohol. I buy wine through Opimian Society wine club. In the November offering of wine the difference in price between SK and AB is as follows: South African blended red wine: SK 33.50...AB 21.50 = $12.00/bottle difference New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc: SK 31.33...AB 20.33 = $11.00/bottle difference Australian Pinot Grigio: SK 18.67...AB 14.00 = $4.67/bottle difference Australian blended red: SK 23.17...AB 13.92 = $9.25/bottle difference Can anyone explain to me this highly erratic difference in price, especially when the wine prices are similar? All of these wines arrived in Canada at the same price, but at the local level we see this massive difference in pricing. I guess it begs the question, how much inter-provincial transport of liquor is currently going on between SK and AB? This is a serious problem which should be addressed in these changes to the liquor store operations.
Selling off public liquor stores will make any gov. look good for 1st year or 2, operating on an average of 12 to 15%. Franchises get a 20% discount and then make a profit of 10% after 100 thousand dollars.Private stores cannot operate on this margain and make profit and will not put back into coffers fund, instead into their own pockets.
I believe that beer and wine should be available for purchase within grocery stores, not in a separate building that is adjacent - this is a convenience issue. There are far to few liquor retail stores -- government has relied on offsale outlets that charge a premium price and have limited selection. The market will determine the right number and location. Access and convenience is a huge issue. There can be long line-ups at government stores during peak periods and there is often a long drive required. I think government should get out of the distribution business and its price-setting role. Use taxes as the vehicle to keep revenue whole -- this is more transparent. Require private liquor stores to display price including taxes, deposits and environmental charges -- I hate this about Alberta.
I am fully satisfied with the current system and support the good work that our publicly funded stores provide. The current system is currently producing revenue and providing good jobs in many communities. I support the employees of those stores. At the same time I am in support of rural communities being allowed to provide a space in their grocery stores for liquor sales where other opportunities are not available. Having shopped in Alberta's system as well I do not see the long term advantage to the province for a completely privately run system.
I will educate my friend,family and co workers the importance of keeping liquor sales public. This current government needs to go. I would rather pay a little more for my wine then to have to pay for my medical bills.
I think there should be a combination of public and private stores.
Why does the Weyburn SLGA stop selling every decent wine they bring in? The wine is 10X better in Wadena SLGA, I stop there on my way to the lake.
I would like to see an expanded selection of alcohol. I live in Swift Current and am limited to what SLGA offers. I find them to be very over priced with a limited selection of non-wine options. I don't agree with not allowing cheap alcohol and I don't believe increasing the prices on alcohol decreases dependency issues, DUIs and underage drinking.
I know a lot of people that buy their alcohol in Alberta when they visit their province and bring it back to Saskatchewan.
My main reasons for having no support for Government run liquor stores, and my arguments towards privatization: 1) The government will still be regulating liquor, resulting in revenues from this. 2) SLGA employees are rarely helpful, and if so, have very limited knowledge of products. 3) SLGA employees do no more work than your local grocery store workers. As a result, they DO NOT deserve to be paid SUBSTANTIALLY more. 4) Minimum pricing on liquor sales does not help social problems. It simply puts alcoholics in tough financial situations, resulting in them turning to other forms of drugs/alcohol.
I have gone from having liquor hidden behind opaque windows to available in grocery stores. People who want to abuse alcohol will do so no matter how tucked away it is. The government should get out of the retail liquor business. They should be more than satisfied with the control they exercise through the wholesale control. I would like to see all govt. stores moved to the private sector and I would like to see the govt. ease up on the wholesale control by going to the single markup on a bottle of alcohol. This would encourage competition where as now there limited ability to

control their pricing due to the cost control exercised by the provincial govt.
I don't know why the sask party want to privatize liquor stores . If these stores go private they will produce all min. Wage jobs that no one other than temporary foreign workers will take . No private employer is going to pay big wages the profits will go directly into there pockets. There is nothing wrong with people making a decent wage be it liquor stores or any of the other crown corp. please don't dismantle our province buy privatizing everything
I want option 3, fully privatized liquor sales like Alberta.
I definitely do not want liquor sales to go into private hands. This would result in more harm to the public as the private sector would be driven by profit only. Right now under our currrent system our diligently trained government empoyees play an important role in protecting the public as this is their primary role..they are not driven by profit at any cost like the corner store owner who would be more likely to sell to minors in the pursiut of earlier retirement. Whereas government emplyees enjoy a friutful career only by following strict regulation...there is zero tolerance for making a decision which would potentially harm the public with our current system....so I stongly believe the only option here is an expansion of the government run liquor stores in our province , so we can continue to be proud of the way they are run and can continue to fund our health care system and keep paving our roads with an expanded tax revenue.
Trying to get the result you want through leading questions is despicable and should not be allowed in government matters
The government overcharging for alcohol to make me 'socially responsible' is absurd and slightly offensive. Add to that the archaic laws that deal with liquor sales in Saskatchewan, one would think we are living in the dark ages. As a consumer I couldn't care less if liquor retail was public or private as long as the prices and convenience are competitive with neighboring provinces.
Wholesale & retail should be run by the private sector and be allowed to compete as in other business. Government should not be dictating what they are allowed to sell, nor for how much. Consumers will!!!! Liquor has been responsibly sold privately for decades.
What we have is working. Why change it? Why put so many people out of a job and put our provinces economy on the line?
I'm very happy to see the expansion of these liquor stores. I live in Saskatoon but frequently purchase alcohol from a rural grocery store when I visit my hometown. I work in public sector and share many left/social views, however government liquor stores is not one of them. I would like to see more of this hybrid approach with private liquor expansion, while continuing to see it regulated by the government. At this point I'm not in favour of shutting down any of the government run liquor board stores, however I don't want to see anymore government lb stores built. The province of saskatchewan should be proud of the various crown corps we have, but I personally feel selling liquor should not be one of them.
Alberta has cheap wine, half the price of SK AND nice roads!
I am overall indifferent to whether a store is privately run or publicly run. What matters most at the end of the day is how much money the government is making through liquor sales in Saskatchewan that can then be reinvested back into roads, hospitals, schools etc.
I believe that your government stores should stay as is. My aunt and my neice(who is a minor) were in the Sobeys store and they had no issues in serving her without asking her to produce ID. How amazing. So is this what is going to happen with the private stores? Are they just concerned about the almighty $$$$$!!!!! How many of these places are going to serve minors just to have the sales. I believe in the government stores as I have seen them many a time in line ask many a person and then some for their ID and I appreciate that. I don't want my neice buying alcohol until she is of age. I am dissapointed that Brad Wall thinks this is okay of his stores to do. For this reason I am only in favor of the government run stores. I lwill no longer purchase any grocery and or anything else at Sobeys. And if Coop is doing the same and serving minors just to get the sales I will not leave my dollars in their stores either. And do these stores put dollars back into our communities. I rather doubt that Sobeys is putting any money anywhere but their own pockets. And the owner is one of the wealthiest so maybe he should put back just like the government does. Leave the government employees to do the job that they have been doing all these years. They know their job and do a excellant job!!!!
The only people complaining about privatization are the employees who want to keep there union job.
I agree with the 'expanded private retail system' option. Dump the present system of big liquor-only stores that emphasize nasty government control and taxation. Develop competitive marketing arrangements with professionals like grocery retailers where part of margins could more agreeably support community development.
If liquor is to be distributed trhrough the same warehouse system chhanging retail doesn't make any sense.comparing to Alberta didnt see neither better pricing neither selection compared to government owned stores here.except for the willow park in Calgary most of their outlets are shady and unatractive
Looking for same price liquor as costco / sobeys liquor.
Privatization will result in low wages for Workers, low benefits if any. There are other priorities such as why is U of S Agricultural

College ranked lower than University of Tehran. Leave liquor system alone and get on with University Education improvements. Senior health care improvements.
Having moved back from Alberta within the last two years it has been an adjustment coming from a province with privatized liquor sales. I appreciate the convenience of multiple private locations on this system and the competative pricing. To be blunt I dont want to pay high liquor tax to go to an employee making upwards of $30/hour to stock liquor shelves.
I Like shopping at the Private Stores; this was long overdue so happy they are now open.
There is enough alcohol being served in public places like movie theaters, bowling alleys, ball diamonds, hockey rinks etc... Coming from a background of alcohol addiction... There is now no place left that is sacred that a family can go.. not having to worry about our parents now getting drunk at the movie theater and bowling alley, causing irreversable damage to feelings, emotional scars, abuse etc... NOW the goverment wants to make it more accessable for everyone..... I'm sure the store at the end of the street that is struggling doesn't really give a about who or what he sells to god knows who... His bottom line is at the peak of his interest.. selling to minors will be an epidemic... As a government run liquor store... the employees do very well at ID ing anyone under 25.. as they should.. If they refuse a drunken customer or a under age minor.. the employee still makes their wages.. they have zero benefit to sell to a minor.... UNLIKE THE STORE AT THE END OF THE STREET THAT CARES ABOUT NOTHING MORE THAN PROFIT.. money money money... This is totally wrong... If this goes through I AND MY ASSOCIATES WILL NEVER EVER SUPPORT preimer Wall as we have up to this point
Quit privitizing services
The revenue generated from public sales are reinvested into the community, once the sale of liquor is privatized, we will lose this revenue and the services funded by it. How will we maintain current services without revenue? Will the government increase personal income taxes to make up the difference?
why does the government regulate liquor sales on private functions(wedding). As a newcomer to this country, tell me why I have to buy a token before I can purchase liquor at a wedding or a beer garden? And most of the time you can't return the unused token.
Government has limited resources - vending of alcohol isn't one of them plus all the supporting infrastructure
Having more private liquor stores will just increase the crime rate, and encourage people to drink more and drink more often. The prices at the private stores are more exspensive and the staff are not knowledgable. The government needs to stop privatizing places. That will contiue to drive people out of Saskatchewan. There have been many people effected from privatization, that are or have lost their good paying jobs that they have spent years working hard at. Now they have to start over at places that don't pay well, pushing more people to work two jobs just to pay rent or make mortgage payments, while our "leaders" make 6 figures and don't even lose sleep to what they are trying to do to hard working people. Your wasting time doing this survey anyways, with all the people you have working for the Sask party, this will come out your way somehow.
No gov't retailing! I do not need a gov't employee to scan a barcode for me. And when the SGEU tells me that only their members can protect society from underage drinkers, well tell that to the union members at Sobey's and Co-Op. Enough already. It's 2014. Gov't out of businesses....period.
Liquor sales is a great source of revenue for the government. Why would we give that up? Investing in new government stores is an investment in more profit. Political ideology should be kept out of this decision.
Saskatchewan residents have been wishing for an Alberta style program for far too long. Government needs to get out of the business and get rid of social reference pricing which should have been more appropriately named revenue assurance pricing. Sask residents shouldn't have to spend more on gas and tires due to overloaded cars filled with cheaper alberta booze on return trips from visiting family. What does this lost revenue cost us? Do the right thing and blow it wide open. We deserve better "If you have ten thousand regulations you destroy all respect for the law" winston churchill
It's a ridiculous notion some people have - to think we need more access to the poison that kills so many! Spend the money on our province's well being instead.
The liquor stores in Alberta such as the Liquor Mart chain are very unattractive, and we do not want some horrid chain like that operating in Saskatchewan. Privatization should mean nicer than government, not uglier.
Slag does so much for Saskatchewan with health highways education you take this away a lot of people will suffer for this we need slag to continue the wonderful things they are doing for our province and for our government too take this away is so awful
I am pleased that alcohol is not readily available the way it is in other provinces or even countries. I like the amount of controls and strongly feel we do not have too much or too little government controls!

Less regulation around beer gardens and social events like that. Be nice to purchase wine and beer in grocery stores.
I support privatization as long as my income taxes do not go up and/or my service levels in provincial services do not decrease as a result.
The Provincial Government should adopt a system that would allow less regulation from Government and allow the consumer to have the option to buy their liquor or Beer with their groceries providing they could provide proper identification similar to some US states. This would also provide the retailer the options to import a variety of liquor from different parts of the would which is now not provided with the current system.
Should be available in groceries as in the states, I would buy no more than I do now @ venders!
I don't think that these questions get to the heart of the matter. The answers to these questions will allow the government to make excuses to privatize more public assets. Increasing the amount of private liquor stores will not decrease prices, will not help in the social aspects and it will lend to people getting paid less who care less about who has access to alcohol. More access to alcohol will mean that there will be a need for the government to properly fund community-based organizations that deal with addiction services and family crisis not to mention health care. Hands off our public services please!
I think the government shouldn't bother trying to fix something that is not broken. Rather its' time would be better spend on trying to deal with issues that citizens of Saskatchewan are actually dissatisfied with! Liquor sales is not one of them.
My thoughts are, I highly respect & commend the promoting of staying with government ran liquors IF the slga can successfully revamp their approach, promotion strategies, & actually start caring about their products & consumers. We do not need more locations (in Regina anyway) nor do we need extended hours. Catering to those whom feel the need to drink excessively. Also, if addicts intend to get a drink, they will get it one way or another. High taxes on all beer/liquor imports weighs on the pockets of your consumers, there must be a better way to deter addicts from "easy access." The slga could improve immaculately by hiring persons with a passion and interest in and knowledge on the product. Much of the current beer selection caters to the individuals whom drink with the sole intentions to drink to get drunk. They drink for the effects.. not the taste the love. There has been a small improvement on the craft beer selections the past couple summers, but there is much more way tonbe made! More of a selection, a better selection, single bottle sale potions(pick your own six packs) would all be great, but you should first start with caring about your current products and the care for them. Beer can get "off" flavors from sitting under your huge florescent lights you have right over them, especially if its non colored glass. Care about your project & consumers. Sadly, i dont think I've met one slga worker who knew anything about their beer selection other then they had one and knew some generals such as Molson budlight,, and I've talked with quiet a few. I would like the slga to continue with their business, but only if they can do better! I do like that money is used for the community, and that's why i want slga to do better. If you can't start caring about your product and consumers, then there needs to be a turn to more private locations WITH slgas.. SLGA, your serive to the community is great & i wish it to continue, SO DO BETTER. So my vote is one ore the other & in this order: 1) Keep slga's only if they can start doing better with their product (my comments are specific to the craft beer selection). 2) implement more private stores along with s lgas (they should still work to make improvements though).
Do not go overboard with the number of private facilities at each location as happened in some locations in Alberta. Example, Leduc Alberta went from 2 Government stores to numerous smaller outlets. Gov't should retain making policy the social aspects and let private business look after their end.
I think this is just another way for the friends of the gov. to cash in, private stores will only make more minimum wage jobs, and how many more drunks do we need on the roads if liquor is available alll the time. I grew up in a home with an abusive alcholic, and Sunday was the only day we could feel a little safer Then lets rip more families apart by having more parenets away from their children every day of the week. Money to these people is all that counts
Cheaper costs@
I don't feel that a government worker has any reason to be in liquor sales whatsoever! This can be done in a private owned facility with government regulations being followed.
NO MORE PRIVATE LIQUOR STORES
The government should get out of liquor sales entirely, both retail and wholesale.
why should the Province spend 16-20 dollars and hour on a stock/retail clerk when a private retailer who is under more scrutiny can sell the same product with the same staff at 2/3 the cost the province should still warehouse and set pricing and let small business do business
I think it should be done via the Alberta way of privitizing the liquor industry. The government should be getting out of the way of running liquor stores and instead focus on higher priorities including highways and health care.

There should be no minimal price for alcohol; as business owners should have the right to charge what they want for alcohol.

I am disappointed that the government is still in the business of wholesaling the liquor when it instead should be left to the private industry to look after that. The government would still get its fair share of revenues through corporate taxes along with the liquor consumption tax.

If we want people to keep their dollars in Saskatchewan instead of having to go across the border to stock up on alcohol, then we should be line with Alberta and go with their way of the liquor industry. This will keep the dollars in Saskatchewan and support our economy.

Its time for us to live in the 21st century and start modernizing the liquor industry in Saskatchewan. That also includes allowing liquor to be sold in grocery stores. Cigarettes are sold in stores where kids are allowed to be in the stores (even though the smokes are behind the counter); therefore alcohol should be allowed to be sold in grocery stores.

We purchase our favourite beer at a small private outlet in Lloydminster that regularly stocks it in small amounts.

Governments should govern and retailers should retail. Get out of the business and let private retailers decide how many jobs they create and who they hire. Allow them to dictate the products and pricing.

The notion of limiting harm through pricing is ridiculous on so many levels... only in Saskatchewan are the lives of so many defined by the noisy few.

Quit wasting time on stuff like this and figure out what you are going to have to cut before the next election.

living in rural Sask we have had to use venders for all our liquor needs, about time the rest of the province caught up with us.

like to see the superstore/costco type liquor stores like alberta in sask.

In most other countries in North America and Europe where I have traveled allow liquor sales in a large number of retailers. Liquor Sales are far less regulated and the liquor sales outlets have special pricing sales and specialty products. Although personally I drink very little I do believe people should have a choice. We are after all now in 2014 not the 193o's.

I believe all Saskatchewan liquor stores should be publicly owned and operated. Any future liquor stores should be publicly owned and operated. But, according to Don McMorris, the minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, the current provincial government will not expand the public system. So why are you asking us what we think when you eliminate a significant option. I can tell what the government is going to do. Options 2, 3 and 4 are all the same. They all end up with a fully private system. After Jan. 30 you'll add up all the people who chose those three options and say that proves people want a private system. The real options are you want the status quo, all private or all public stores. The government has decided to eliminate the latter option, so this whole survey is fixed to either guarantee all future liquor stores are private or all stores will be private. This whole exercise is a terrible joke.

I fully support keeping our liquor stores public. Stop the privatization of the money making businesses we have example liquor stores casinos as well as other crown corps.

recipients should have a limited amount to spend on booze!

It would be nice to be able to purchase alcohol in grocery stores so that I don't always have to make two stops on the way home.

I'd like to see privatization of liquor sales in SK. Even if prices aren't lowered much, the fact that we have more availability is good for the consumer. It would also get rid of these awful night prices offsales have; night prices for alcohol only exist in SK, and it's because of the current system we have. Ideally, I'd like to see something more comparable to QC or the US in terms of price and availability in grocery stores, but going the Alberta route is a step in the right direction.

If government is going to enter into a private model, there must be a greater opportunity for the retailer to make more profit than 13 to 16%....also, there would need to be more opportunity for consumers to take advantage of greater variations in price....finally, there needs to be better selection and access in rural areas.

Many of the questions in this survey are quite narrow in scope, require assumptions & don't offer the ability for citizens to give accurate feedback.

Privatization of government-run operations does very little to help the people of SK. It is basically the transfer of public wealth into the hands of rich individuals/corporations, and for nothing more than a short-term windfall. Start thinking about the future of SK instead of only caring about what will help keep the SK Party in power. This province needs to be sustainable after they leave office...

I am sure Brad Wall has already decided what he wants to do, so get on with the privatisation of liquor sales.

We have too many liquor outlets serving liquor in Sask cities.

We seem to be following the age old system of many states in the USA

allowing several outlets in a small area- more is not nece4ssarily required or good.
If this can increase selection and some of the convenience that I have been missing since I relocated from Alberta a decade ago, then I am in full support of going that route. As for the some of the worries about the availability of alcohol, I stand by the fact that if someone wants it bad enough they can still get it.
Yes. Government has NO BUSINESS BEING IN BUSINESS. TURN ALL OPERATIONS OVER TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND LET CAPITALISM RUN ITS COURSE. COMPETITION IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS AND THE CONSUMER. THIS GOVERNMENT HAS FAR TO MUCH WASTE AND OPERATES EXTREMELY INEFFICIENCTLY.
The more options available, the more competition which leads to better pricing and availability. I fully support deregulation and opening up the market to other businesses. It creates a better consumer experience, boosts the economy with outside investment and frees up government resources for more important areas.
I agree with liquor to be available at retail outlets like a Sobeys or coop, but not like you local corner store or a 7-11. There still needs to be a certain amount of regulation s on this product.
On a recent visit to Edmonton, I was very, very impressed with the variety of craft beers in some of the liquor stores and pub/restaurants. The craft beer from the US and Canada was great. They also had growler stations where you could get draft beer to take home. Manitoba also has these now. Saskatchewan is so far behind much of the world that it's just sad. Increasing the variety of beer, wine and liquors in this province will not lead us down the road to hell. I won't drink any more then I do now. I will just drink better beer. Privatize all the liquor stores.
The U.S. states have low liquor prices and don't seem to have any social issues relating to cheap alcohol - how do they do it? If Saskatchewan is phasing out gov't stores this must be done without impacting current jobs. Small town govt stores provide good service. May be best to let allow more private stores in remote areas and keep the govt stores, at least until the employees are gone through attrition. Found the first question on the survey rather convoluted.
We don't need government employees stocking shelves. Lower prices would increase sales and tax income. Alberta shopping for alcohol would stop. This isn't rocket science. You would think the NDP were still in power.
privitize it all
I have no problem with purchasing beer and wines in grocery stores. We do that in other jurisdictions.
we do not need government liquor stores.
Maintain current Government run liquor stores
Please make liquor more available at a local level. Less dangerous as people are not driving under the influence and why is the pricing so high, public or private. Why does the government need to make so much money on taxes. Drop the tax dramatically and that will keep the money in Saskatchewan.
After visiting the new Coop store in Blairmore i have never been back to a government store and don't plan to. So much more selection/
I support private and local small business, the revenue created from alcohol sales must stay within the province and the governments share going to healthcare and education in SK. I am not concerned about free samples and the buying experience. I want good selection, good pricing, and the tax dollars to stay home. I do not think the government resources required to build and manage retail facilities and pay union jobs is effective.
Before you allow more private retail, you need to address the markup pricing regulations. As it stands, a private retail situation will raise prices. If Saskatchewan wants to be a destination for people to move to we need to address cost (School taxes, income taxes, and the like). If Liquor is to be addressed you should do it holistically including taxation, price markup, and retail. I will not support the elimination of Saskatchewan being the main purchaser, but retail needs to be a private market.
I think the liquor store should start selling pop. I love the staff at the liquor store in North Battleford. Very frendily and helpful. I think the privet store in Saskatoon is nice but i would never go back there if i was in Saskatoon. They have a lot of wine and thats about it. Not much of a selection of hard stuff.
Reducing social harm and enforcing price controls should not be a government function. Since we have publicly provided healthcare, we should try to fund the program through taxes that provide direct financial strains on the system. Alcohol would be a financial strain on the healthcare system. Perform a study to figure out the the cost of alcohol on public healthcare and tax the alcohol accordingly. This would not be a "sin tax" but instead a pigovian tax.
No to privatizing!!
Personally I am proud of our government run liquor stores. It is a very controlled atmosphere where responsible adults may

purchace adult drinks without any hastle. (in and out). The workers are very pleasent and knowledgeable, they are on top of under age kids trying to purchase alcohol and refusing over intoxicated adults and removing this type of behavor from the store. I would be very afraid of privatizing where employees would not be paid a decent wage and really don't give a dam. Finally it would be a shame to see all those employees without jobs, to lose a good job with benefits and a pension, lets face it thoes jobs are hard to find and hard to get. Leave it as it is and be proud of the buisness Saskatchewan runs.

I would like to see liquor sold in grocery stores.

Keep everything the way it is, we do not want to put families out on the street and we all know the government makes profits from Liquor sale, I just don't know why you're trying to fix something that is not broken? Go live and run the government in Alberta if that is the way you like to see things run. Everything is fine maybe we need to open more government run liquor stores?? Did you ever think about that. I' am a Saskatchewan Party supporter but now I feel I have to make choices in the next election. I' am a big fan of solid secure jobs for families, I cannot live with myself if families are Laid off, neglected and children are affected over privatization. These government jobs are great for everyone and our province, they all work in a nice environment and when done they will have a pension to live and survive off, now why would a thinking government do this to it's own people? That is where this issue divides me thanks.

you cant please everyone. a government job lost is another job created in this case. these private dealers will need employees also. our government has too many other flaws that need to be fixed first. until that happens we cant afford to give up most of the liquor revenue. this survey is moot

Allow retailers to buy directly from suppliers and avoid government distribution. Government can still collect fees and taxes by becoming the clearing house for all retailer/supplier transactions. This would allow retailers to negotiate their own prices with distributors, but would be taxed 40% of the negotiated price. Retailers would have to pay the government clearing house, so that, in turn, the government could pay the supplier. Should the supplier not receive payment from the clearing house it would mean that the retailer has not paid for the order. Any circumvention of the clearing house for payments would result in all liquor licenses owned by the retailer to be revoked.

Net income for the government would remain the same, but wages for staffing and administration associated with distribution centers would be substantially less.

Government needs to get out of the business of alcohol sales. Employees are overpaid when compared to every other retail job. A private industry will better serve rhe public and monies from the sale of retail locations could be better spent on other things.

Keep it government owned

I live close to the Sobey's store in Saskatoon. Go there exclusively for liquor. So much better.

I think all liquor outlets should be government owned or controlled. Alcohol adds to our overall health care costs so ALL profits should go to the government to help defray the costly damage to lives and society it causes. There seems to never be enough money for health care, so we need that more than we need more liquor outlets especially private ones.

It should be like the rest of the world ... being able to pick up a bottle of wine while grocery shopping!

As long as current government stores are profitable, they should continue to operate. However I fully support private businesses being able to open their own stores and competing.

The liquor business is profitable for the Saskatchewan government. Why get rid of something that makes our province money to invest into other things that we need (like heath care, roads, etc.)?

Private business creates jobs that pay MUCH less than government run stores. If you want your citizens to have the money to spend in our province, they have to have GOOD jobs so they can re-invest in our communities!

Private liquor stores will RAISE the cost of alcohol! I've been to Off Sale stores... those are private, yet they are MUCH MUCH more expensive than the government stores.

Alcohol, the most common(and most abused)legal drug in Canada SHOULD NOT be available in a grocery store in a large city. This normalizes it for children and makes it more accessible to those fighting addiction. We have the highest rates of death by drunk driving in the country - making alcohol more accessible will NOT HELP!!

Re the question about sales of liquor in grocery stores: I took that to refer only to "hard liquor". I feel that there is a place for wine/beer sales in grocery stores.

It would be nice to pick up wine with my other purchase for dinner.

I am in favour of selling the government stores and managing the number of liquor outlets in a fully private system. I support the sale of alcoholic beverages in grocery stores that are typically associated with meals (e.g. wines and after dinner liquors).

While not part of the review, I would also favour 'fine tuning' social reference pricing and mark-up structures in order to allow

greater price competitiveness. I believe if done creatively this can be done without significantly impacting government revenues.
I heavily support any option that increases the selection and improves the knowledge of staff working in liquor stores in Saskatchewan.
The more store the more availibility for younger people to consume alcohol. So less is better.
Where I live in Saskatchewan, there is a very low crime rate. I choose to keep things the way they are rather than upgrading like larger centers. Some change is a good thing but why ask for trouble by giving our younger more choices in the wrong areas. I do consume the occasional drink of alcohol and have nothing against it. Those who are of legal age have access to it just the way it is. No need for change.
I feel very strongly that the gov't should have no involvement in retail distribution of liquor. Current public system is inefficient & expensive resulting in too few locations and high retail costs to taxpayers. Current system serves SGEU members 1st, customers 2nd. I am forced to go to separate store for liquor. What next, govt dairy store?
The cost of liquor is very high in Saskatchewan when compared to Alberta. Therefore we do not (if it can be avoided) shop at liquor stores in Saskatchewan. All of our alcohol purchases and done in builk in Alberta. The cost difference can be as much as 10 dollars cheaper per bottle of wine in ALberta.
I am happy with the way liquor sales are currently managed in Saskatchewan. I wouldn't want to see people losing decent paying jobs only to be replaced with minimum wage jobs.
Less regulation of the products that stores are allowed to sell. Would love to see a greater variety of Canadian wines and spirits from small businesses on the shelves. End the requirement of booze having to go through government warehouses. It's stifling small producers chances of actually making money with too high of warehouse fees
Liquor is a controlled substance and must remain in government control
I moved back to Sask from the US 4 years ago and was shocked at the prices here and even compared to Alberta. An open market should be allowed. Let the consume decide.
stores should be privitized
Privatize liquor stores!
Liquor retailing should occur where there is a market and an entrepreneur looking to run the store. If that's at the local corner store or a 7-11 it shouldn't matter. If Costco and Safeway want to sell liquor then they should be able to. They don't need to build a different building, they should be able to sell all types of liquor right in their current store, with their employees, if they so choose. The market will determine the best options and locations, not the government. As for revenue, the province's markup should be adjusted in some way. I understand the need to keep some of the revenue but the policies need to change. Without a reduction in the markup, as an example it would be hard to justify having no minimum price(which we should no longer have) as larger businesses could offer loss leaders to attract customers that smaller business owners just couldn't compete with.
If its not broken don't mess with it. There is nothing better than the way things used to be in my view, however it appears that once you guys get your heads filled with an idea, its come hell or high water for a change. I can see where you would rather see employee's working at two or three part time jobs at minimum wage that to have long time employee's who have done an excellent job thus far. It is almost whimsical that you try to deflect your agenda on improved health care, and in my view that in nothing but ! Further when you tried to give away Casino Regina and Moose Jaw away, what where you thinking? You have up the health care and the prescription drug program to a point of no return. You do not care about those of us who have been dealing with chronic pain for years and being totally disabled, what have you done to improve my lifestyle? Let me tell you this....NOTHING! I can go to my second home in Ecuador and take my empty prescription bottle into the pharmacy there and get a refill from every drug store in town if I so choose, and all you have done is taken away my pain medication after years of being on it, and leave me to suffer. What is my only other option ? To have my back operated on! My neighbor had the same surgery that they want to do on me and that in Regina, the young put her in a wheelchair for the rest of her life. After visiting her it was evident that was filling the place up with Why do you continue to let operate on us? Don't try to tell me that you, with the lost revenue from liquor will some how have more money for investment in health care, and I believe even a could see through that . I cannot wait to leave Saskatchewan after watching the mess you clowns have created. Who knows, with your lack of initiative on the environment as well, you are full steam ahead to kill the planet off with your lack of cleaning up the acid rain from the tar sands and the heavy pollution from our home province one would think that you would be trying to save a planet that will be safe for your children and grandchildren, but instead are proceeding with your lack of effort to help make the humans and living animals on the planet extinct. Think about it. , reload and rotate. |Sincerely, me
A mixed system of retailing liquor in the province provides competition within the industry which is always an advantage to the consumer. That would require updating current gov't. stores and allowing gov't. store managers some flexibility in operating

these outlets so they can best serve their regular customers .
More than anything - I want MORE selection. If a product is available in Alberta or North Dakota, I want to be able to purchase it here too.
I support a general privatization of the liquor industry in Saskatchewan, but there are lessons to be learned from Alberta's experience. The foremost is to limit liquor retailing license. Alberta gave too many out and ended up with multiple liquor stores on a block. I am generally a proponent of free competition, but the detrimental effects of liquor necessitate some regulation in this area. Over time, Liquor Depot has bought up the vast majority of independent liquor stores in Alberta, meaning that widespread shops don't even provide the benefits of competition. Ideally, I would like to see a model focuses on retail delivery by established businesses such as supermarkets and supplemented by specialty stores and maybe some general independent retailers. Additionally, I don't see any reason why supermarkets should be forced to construct a second building in order to sell liquor.
I think we are giving to the business community far too much of our crown corporations. I did not realize when we voted in this government that this was the Mandate, to sell every crown or give every crown over to big business. Need more revenue, go after potash corp.
Services that are publicly delivered should be publicly owned. Revenue from liquor sales should certainly go to all the people of the Province.
Sobey's store has brought Sask Liquor sales in the 21st century. The SLGA Stores here are a dismal shopping experience. Stores are dark and dingy.. limited parking except for University Hts. and Confederation. Sobeys is bright, customer friendly, AIR MILES and a cold beer room. Sales are real sales.. not 50 cents off. Over all a much better shopping experience. Going there all the time now.
Do not allow liquor in grocery stores. Wherever alcohol is sold there should be opportunities for public awareness on alcohol related harms. Employees of retailers should have mandatory education on the harms of alcohol related disabilities ie FASD and alcohol related harms (alcoholism, drinking and driving) Public education should be a priority in the franchise and private retailers as well as in Government run liquor stores Franchises and Retailers should determine their hours of operation based on community consensus The only regulation for selling liquor is that it is never sold to anyone under 19
Government should not privatize liquor stores. Saskatchewan will lose a substantial amount of revenue that is invested back into the province. We do not want to be Alberta, where there is a liquor store on every corner. The current model works. Keep it.
status quo....
If I wanted to own a private beer/wine store, with differentiated product selection, how do I, as an entrepreneur, do that?
The government store serve my purposes; I think it would be a shame to privatize the sale of liquor in Saskatchewan.
The in-efficiency and difficulty of special orders and access to greater selection needs to be addressed. The 'craft beer' section of SLGA stores is absolutely disappointing and minuscule compared to wine and spirits selection. I feel that more selection is absolutely critical as a consumer. Liquor retailing in Saskatchewan is outdated and needs change. I would like to purchase beer and wine at the grocery store and I would like to see more selection like that of the Willow Park and Sobeys liquor stores especially in the SLGA stores, both of which I've gone to in Saskatoon and Regina. The SLGA is not capable of building these type of stores. They are very well done - SLGA stores are old and outdated, lack refrigeration of beer and the service is not equal to that of the private stores.
Allow alcohol to be sold directly to people by retailers. The government should never attempt to compete with private companies, so therefore all government stores should be shutdown or sold off. There is no need to use a "mark-up" (i.e. a tax) to try to reduce social harm. Continue to collect tax on the retail price of the alcohol. Do not set prices by applying a mark-up, this only encourages people to buy their alcohol in Alberta on one of their many trips there.
I am more torn than anything. I would like cheaper prices but i understand the social responsibility of charging higher prices. I would like to see more convenient sales options like having a grocery store/private options, but I also like that revenue is going to the government and funding provincial projects. I would like to see a little more flexibility by the government to allow private companies to stock whichever alcohol they see fit. it is that companies risk as to whether it sells or not.
I believe in free enterprise government can be wholesaler but should leave retailing up to real marketers. We are a free

enterprise Province now Thank God.. We got rid of the Reds...
Government liquor stores have served us well, and offer a good source of revenue to contribute to government funding for education, health and social services. Why transfer this revenue to private sector profits?
private liquor stores will not be benificial to our province
Privatize! Government should focus on other more important things like roads, hospitals etc. I don't need the government to regulate when and where I can buy booze, what kinds I can only choose from and for how much. I would say at least option 2 if not fully option 3! I sure hope there is a majority of people here in Saskatchewan that agrees with me so we can move on from this old Saskatchewan and continue to prosper the new Saskatchewan! Privatize!
After decades of selling beer, the government still hasn't figured out that people like it chilled. Enough said.
Prefer a totally private and competitive set up for Sask.
Do not go fully private, do not close government run liquor store. Keep the current mixed system. If more private stores open that's fine but don't slash Sask Jobs!
leave it status quo
I strongly support the government still being involved in the liquor retailing process. Not only does the increase in cost improve our communities in other areas, but it also prevents individuals struggling with addiction to have easier access/cost to liquor outlets and supplies. An example would be how cigarette prices have increased, and how many individuals had to quit smoking due to the extremely high costs. As a result this helps their overall health and reduces the chances of them entering the health care system. I fear with privatization, the competition for "cheaper" product will result in higher consumption of alcohol which has been proven time and time again as a danger on our individual health and on the health care system. However, if it is decided that privatization is the direction to go, I hope that the government starts putting some training legislated for anyone who serves, sells, or manages an establishment that serves or sells liquor. Staff need to be aware of the dangers of over serving or selling, and if liquor sales were to be privatized, I fear that the staff will not be provided that education. Legislation of training such as Serve It Right Saskatchewan or similar should be required, and I strongly support it be offered in a workshop form, versus online as it will increase discussion and clarify any concerns the staff might have. We do not need to make liquor more accessible, and cheaper for our communities. This will have detrimental effects elsewhere throughout our systems. Instead, I encourage more training for staff, and education to the community about the dangers of alcohol consumption, and continue the costs as is (neither increased or decreased) to allow for affordable yet reasonable alcohol prices.
1. eliminate the "10% liquor consumption tax"; by all appearances, we pay 10% more for the 'mere privilege' of consuming alcoholic beverages in this province; this is nonsense; it tells me that you are much more reliant on liquor revenues than you otherwise state; 2. privatize the liquor portfolio, back off and then "hands off"; do not impose control on or dictate beverage prices because you simply want to collect "tax revenue" 3. refund the FULL bottle and can deposit; if not in agreement, then at least reduce the container deposit to $0.10 and then refund exactly that amount
I spend a few weeks a year in California where it is possible to purchase liquor in any grocery store. It's very nice to have the opportunity to include liquor if necessary in a run to the store without having to make a separate stop. All the same ID requirements are in place as they are in Saskatchewan, they are just handled by the store clerks.
Close those government stores that are not making a profit and allow private as well. Option 2
The current system meets my needs. If anything, I'd like more one stop shopping experiences which are unavailable here - grabbing snacks and a beer (or Corona and limes)requires two stops, so any future scenario of standalone private stores that still require two stops really doesn't change anything from the experience point of view. Installing more beer coolers in the existing stores would be an incremental improvement, even with no other change in retailing.
I really don't think price regulation should drive social strategies. Education plays a larger role. Also, just because the price of beer/wine/spirits may be unaffordable, there are many other avenues for the abusive population.
SLGA stores are good, private stores are better (usually). If I need cold beer I'd go to a private store with a cooler. If I'm getting spirits or wine I don't really care if the store I get it from is ran by the government or a private company.
I find the selection is better at private stores, compared to SLGA stores, but still limited when compared to Cava Secreta and private stores in AB
I see no purpose in limiting access to purchasing liquor in stores. Liquor is available for purchase so many places now that it

seems ridiculous that I can not buy alcohol in a grocery store. Otherwise, the only other dissatisfaction that I have when purchasing alcohol is the price variance. I will also admit that as a result I am purchasing more and more alcohol out of province and stock piling it. Therefore the province is missing possible revenue from me by taxing it more.
Do not spend anymore money on building liquor outlets. The government's only role should be to tax the sale of alcohol. Let Costco, Superstore, Safeway, Sobeys, Co-op, Walmart, sell liquor, especially wine and beer. Immediately. Let the retail experts do the retail, let the govt collect the tax on the sales. Every other country I have visited (many) allows me to buy my wine at the same place I buy my steaks. Convenience! Selection! I am not wild about the Willow Park idea, I prefer the booze to be in the grocery stores.
Government should not be in the retail liquor business. It should be the same as tobacco where anyone can sell it. They can collect a tax but that is the extent of it.
I want government to open more government liquor stores
Keep it the way it is now.
I support government only liquor stores..... Keep the cash cow and open more government stores
Better selection and competitive pricing would be appreciated.
The government needs to needs to get their priorities straight,and focus on more important issues. Stop trying to turn us into Alberta!
I do not believe that the government should be involved in retail liquor sales.
The sooner a move towards full privatization the better.
Government should not be in the retail liquor business
The questions should reflect the amount of revenue to the province. They should ask the questions that allow survey takers to understand how their answers affect what is currently in p,ace. Many of these questions are written to get the answer the survey makers were trying to elicit. Very poorly put together. Re- do!
I feel we should be able to buy beer,wine, spirits in our local grocery store or pharmacy or other similar stores. I like how the USA makes it convenient to purchase. We do not need the Government in the liquor business. They can maintain their profits through mark ups which should be FLAT!
I support more government liquor stores
I think that the system in place is working so why change something that isn't broken and that is making a decent profit for the gov't. Giving control to private stores may work for a short period but how will the gov't ensure compliance. The SLGA seems to do well so let's let them do what they have been doing well for many years.
Private or public doesn't matter. Lower the taxes and fees on liquor!
It is ridiculous the price we pay for alcohol in this province!
Keep Sales Government run, keep the jobs, keep making money for public use!
your control of the booze business is rust from the old regime. focus on running the province and stop importing people from other countries. you have no business in the private sector. nor in the importation of terrorists.
I feel that the present liquor retailing system is adequate and see know reason for discount liquor stores
I think there should be no liquor sales on movie hall and saloons there is a time and place for it. I also believe on one had the govt is saying ok on the other they are say no way can't have it both ways. Liquor sales are important to our economy and healthcare etc and everyone deserves good jobs to provide for their families.
There was an article on the news a while ago where a small community could not have a off sale outlet because the neighboring community had one. The representitive of the slga said that the avaiability would be too high. I do not believe that a representitive of the slga or the government should be making that decision. I feel that in a free country as individuals we should be able to make the decision for ourselves.

Expanding private sale of alcohol is the wrong choice. Private businesses are more likely to sell to minors, while Gov't run stores do not do that.
I THINK THE LIQUOR SHOULD REMAIN THE SAME AS IT IS NOW. If YOU OPEN IT UP THEN THE BIG BOX STORES WILL HAVE ONE MORE WAY OF RUNNING OUT SMALL INDEPENDANT BUSINESSES. WITH THE FRANCHISES THEY ARE MOSTLY IN SMALLER STORES AND WITH LIQUOR PRICES THE SAME ALL OVER THE PROVINCE THE SMALL STORES HAVE A FAIR CHANCE TO SELL THE SAME BOTTLE AT THE SAME PRICE AS THE LARGER LIQUOR STORES. I HAVE BEEN IN LIQUOR STORES IN ALBERTA AND THEY ARE A DISGRACE. I RUN A BUSINESS AND IT IS HARD ENOUGH TO COMPETE WITH WALMART AND SOBEYS WITHOUT THEM HAVING LIQUOR AS WELL. IF IT IS RIGHT THAT SMALL BUSINESS IS IMPORTANT TO THE SASKATCHEWAN ECONOMY THEN STOP DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO DRAG EVERYONE INTO THE MAJOR CENTERS. THANK YOU
I like the prices at SLGA liquor stores compared to off sale or private liquor stores (based on what I usually purchase) as it is always cheaper at the SLGA liquor stores. However, the government should not own or operate liquor stores as that money could be going toward better roads. If Co-op prices were the same as SLGA stores, I would say privatize SLGA tomorrow...
When you consider the problems with just drinking and driving, why on earth do we need to make liqour more avaiable. Plus all the social ills drinking causes. Personally I am a casual consumer of alchol and I don't need it at my finger tips 24/7
I think private stores would be a positive move so hopefully there is some competition which I believe will improve availability, selection and price of alcohol.
The trials into a mixed system have been successful and would like to see more of this sort of thing. Increased private sector involvement can only help the industry in terms of efficiency and customer service. The government should maintain its current level of retail involvement, but focus future attention towards licensing, distribution, and other services which will present more indirect opportunities for taxation and user revenues.
Small towns that have a business that want a liquor vendor should not automatically be excluded because a vendor or SLGA store is within X km. In some cases the survival of that town, village or hamlet may depend on the survival of that one business.
I have yet to see a compelling reason to take liquor profits from the people of Sask. and give it to a private enterprise(probably because one doesn't exist).
Increased privatization will result in loss of public sector full time jobs. Any increase in private sector job will be lower paying, part time or casual work, and will mean fewer stable, living wage jobs. These employees CONTRIBUTE to the economy through their municiple, and provincial taxes and reinvestment in the community through the goods and services they buy HERE. Privatization will mean that the significant profits made by the public liquor board system will be lost to the government and and an already overburdened middle class will have to make up the difference. Much of the profits from liquor sales will not remain in Saskatchewan but be funnelled out of province into corporate profits and to shareholders outside of the province. Investing in Saskatchewan and in Saskatchewan people benifits the whole province. Also.... Protect our kids. It's not ok that liquor stores could be located closer to parks and schools than they could be to another liquor store. Quit around with my crowns!
Please don't bring any private operations to Sask.We have so many problems with alcoholism ,abuse and and crime.With store on every corner its going to get worse. How many people will loose their jobs if you close government stores.I think what we have is perfect and Saskatchewan is doing great. Not everything is about the money please have a heart.
My biggest issue is that public liquour store employees are making ridiculously high salaries to be store clerks. The salaries and benefits they get must cut into profits. As a taxpayer I find it unacceptable to pay unionized employees $26 to $30 per hour to stock shelves and operate a cash register. That's more than many university graduates make. Govt should not be in liquour sales. Customer service is not the greatest in public liquour stores. There is one in saskatoon in university heights where the customer service is exemplary. However it still doesn't justify the salaries. I'm not much of a union supporter though. They are going to be the financial ruin of our country.
Does the gov't actually care about what the public thinks? I believe they already have decided slga's fate.
the province should look at the North Dakota model where grocery stores sell alcohol but in a separate building.
I believe that liquor stores should remain publicly owned. I also would support publicly owned kiosks in other retail locations such as grocery stores.
The Co-op outlet puts the gov. stores to shame.
Having a private store is great in terms of selection and price (and likely price competitiveness), however in a discussion over whether alcohol, or education should win out, there should be no competition.
Total privatization is not the way to go. Public and private stores can co-exist. The public stores need to be given the same

playing field as the private. Hey, my gas station closes @ 8pm out in the rural, so why is there a big to do about hours of operation and selection. We all don't live in a city.
This survey dis not allow for the option of expanding government's role in liquor retailing. It allowed for stating this is not a good idea by stating money could be better spent by investing less in liquor retailing. If the government is looking for a specific type of feedback it looks like this survey was designed to get it. Having said that, I applaud asking for feedback. Here it is - Having lived in North Dakota, Ontario (beer store) and Alberta I can say that private stores did not provide better service than that provided in Saskatchewan. I would be dissapointed to see assets sold from the public sector at a steep discount in order to satisfy ideology. The sask party is at its best when it balances conservative and liberal ideas - solve problems rather than implement ideology.
Expanded Liquor Retailing will not hamper the government's ability to invest in other 'Public Priorities' as the liquor stores are a self-sustaining operation that would be able to invest in itself and keep more dollars in the province. I am a father of two that prefers to have the access to liquor more difficult than picking up a 4 litre of milk that will be closer and closer to unaffordable while the cost of liquor gets closer and closer to competitive pricing based on the number of people needed to be attracted to buying it more cheaply. Taking my kids to grocery stores where alcohol is on the property is not the way to bring in more corporate business, especially when the corporations will hire people at minimum wages with little to no bebefit to being responsible about what condition the customer is in except to punish the minimum wage worker rather than expecting professionalism from someone at a decent wage.
I actually go out of my way to support the government liquor stores because i know the prices will be the same (and fair) and I know the people there are paid a good wage with benefits and I believe it makes the whole province a better place to live and work and play to have such institutions. It makes for more sense that gas tax or some other form of revenue be used to fund the bottomless pit of road building and repairs. I strongly disagree with the move to private liquor stores as has already been done and think it moves us in the wrong direction. This survey had very leading and co-ercive questions and although I did my best... it feels like I wasn't able to give honest answers because the questions were far from neutral.
I believe that having some control over liquor sales in Saskatchewan is important. Saskatchewan has the largest per capita crime rate and reducing control over liquor will cause this to increase. Why is the Sask Party making this such a big issue when they should focus on other things like education and healthcare??? I hate unions but I see through right through this manipulation. You politicians work for us not the other way around.
I think this is a fishing survey and the question wording appears to me as leading. Keep in mind that our children are going to inherit your dreams whatever they are? Maybe we have too many deep thinking politicians' that don't have the best interest of Saskatchewan residents in mind. Or maybe just too many politicians?
I fully support a fully privatized system similar to Alberta. It is time for the province to modernize and get with the 21st century. The old fashioned views on socialist policy that our province was afflicted with during the dark ages of NDP rule are no longer relative in a modern growing economy.
yes, some of these questions are attempting to guide the person who is completing the survey in Favor of what the Sask party wants. This is
I think our pricing is ridiculous....if you look at alberta there is a HUGE price jump!! (Ie: cheaper to buy 18 cans of twisted teas in alberta than 12 cans in sask- ridiculous!!!) Also more variety would be appreciated.
The government should continue to run it's profitable locations & get rid of / sell it's non-profitable ones.
Time to privatize. Government should not be in the business of selling alcohol!!
It would be nice to be able to buy wine and beer at the grocery store, but there needs to be safeguards so that teenagers do not have access to buying it.
I just want better selection in purchasing products. I think a private store might be able to do that. I also strongly disagree with the regulations regarding transporting alcohol over provincial borders.
There was nothing about the wage that workers get at government liquor stores. The employees are over paid considering it is a retail environment. This is an absolute waste of tax dollars. These government liquor stores need to be shut down and let the private sector take over. The selection and prices do not favour the consumer.
I feel that Saskatchewan is ready to move to a full private retail system.This would provide consumers with more product variety,more competitive pricing,as well as freeing up funds in the provincial budget for more important things than running retail operations.
Alcohol is not in the same realm of government run entities like saskpower or saskenergy which are required for modern day

survival. Alcohol should be in the private sector and have healthy competition.

the SLGA has the best prices by far when it comes to sales in general. I don't like the pricing at the new co-op or sobeys, but i can't buy the selection they offer at any SLGA store which is very disappointing.

Honestly i'd prefer if the SLGA would step up and carry all the brands and supply the increasingly popular craft beer available at good prices!

the ONLY reason i was happy to see the co-op and sobeys go up is because they bring craft beer in from all over the west..

Businesses, including liquor stores, should be private.

what will happen to the all the organizations that benefits from the sale of liquor?these make money for the province,money that can be used for infrastructure..if they privatize it then drop the 160% mark up and give the people a deal..either get out of it or keep it and make money to help other area's..how bout giving us question about solving homelessness instead of where to buy alcohol at???privatization doesn't mean cheaper alberta type prices..so tell people that cause a lot think it does..

kEEP OUR LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC!!!

Revenue from sales is important for the province as are the jobs the government liquor stores provide.

There is way too much government in Saskchewan. People are capable of taking care of themselves and makin their own decisions the government does not have to regualte liquor sales. In SK you would think that prohibition has just ended. We are way behind compared to the rest of the world.

Many of these questions implied that if we shut down the government stores there would be more money for other programs but never explains where that money would come from once you shut down this revenue stream. Also. As a person who enjoys a good drink and spent high school in Lloydminster, I can tell you that having more choice didnt change that fact that its not that hard to get a drink. I would like to see the the government back off on controlling how much you drink through price. Change that and we are good.

There is no reason government should be involved in retail sales of any kind including liquor.

Allow competition for sgi as well

Have not seen any price advantage to buying alcohol in Alberta as compared to Sask. Also Alberta liquor outlets aren't well maintained in some cases. Sask liq board stores are neat & clean & staff is helpful & friendly. Makes no sense to me to pass liquor sale profits to private sector then personal taxes will be increased to offset this OR worse, more sevices cut.

Please just deregulated liquor, wine, and beer sales. Let the big stores compete in what they offer (e.g. Walmart, Costco, Target, etc). The prices I pay in SK are higher than I have paid anywhere else. Let the workers find other jobs in the booming SK economy.

Good luck in deliberations. Remember - there are limited good jobs north of Saskatoon - the more privatization, the fewer opportunities for decent jobs.

It seems likely to me that if the people selling liquor are in non-government jobs, they will be paid less. People who are paid closer to minimum wage are generally not very motivated to do put their all into a job (unless there is a good expectation that excellent performance will lead to an increased wage) and therefore service will suffer. Also, cost of living has risen significantly in Saskatchewan, so any move to decrease the number of well-paying jobs seems to support a reduced quality of life for Saskatchewan people overall. It is also important to note that people who earn less pay fewer taxes and generally buy fewer goods (or take on more debt), having a negative effect on government revenue and on the economy as a whole.

One thing I can say is that quite often I have experienced disrespectful and rude employees at Government Liquor stores to the point where I would drive across the city to another location just so I wouldn't have to deal with those employees. Whereas in Willow Park I only experience incredible customer service. I actually prefer to pay a little extra and drive a little further to access the quality of products and great customer service I receive at Willow Park. Ideally, I would rather pay less and be able to get what I want in my local neighborhood.

As with most retail items, those manufactured in Saskatchewan can and should be subsidized in some form to encourage the economic growth. In the case of liquor, the price minimum prices that are set could be reduced for locally produced liquor.

End the Marxist control on liquor, and the province would still see revenue because people would actually buy hard liquor from saskatchewan instead of always stocking up on their top shelf booze from the states.

i priced out getting a case of 6 - 26oz of blackheart rum from kentucky and SLGA was going to charge me $60 + tax of all things. A 40 oz bottle of this in montana costs me $18 USD. After i pay duty on declaring this it makes sense to wait till i go to the states to stock up and keep our broken system away from stealing more of my after tax dollars.

i don't have a single friend who buys top shelf liquor in this province because of this, might as well have a u.s. holiday and buy it

for much cheaper with great selection from the south. And it never has stood to reason that a SLGA till clerk should make a preposterous amount more of money than a safeway till clerk just cause one is government. Stop the insanity and release the iron fist on this industry.
Government has never been good and never will be good at operating a business. Stop trying to babysit the public, get on with what is important; health care, education and the economy.
I very strongly believe that the government should not be weighing the resultant loss of jobs past compentation for dismissal when evaluating the cost benifit for privitazation of the sale of alcohol.
The sale of liquor is not a critical or public service and should not be handled by the government. There are more important things the government could be focusing on. Health care, poverty, education, infrastructure etc. The government of course does have a role in taxing and regulating, and enforcing those liquor regulations.
I fully support special liqor stores that offer a greater varity of products. I do not support private stores or grocery stores selling the same major brands as the crowns. I also would support private stores being allowed to go directly to the source to buy the product VS ordering through SK liquor for any Canadian brewer , distiller, and winery. I also think changes should be made to allow local companies to expand and grow as large as they want without major unjustified government interference
I do not support private liquor sales. I appreciate that although the cost is more in Government run liquor stores, the extra money is being used for Saskatchewan initiatives. Private sales will not help the general public of Saskatchewan and that is what the Sask. government should be concerned with. Helping a few more business men (or women) get rich should NOT be a priority.
Government should not be regulating hours for selling alcohol to limit social harm. Alcohol consumption is legal and this is too controlling. Is this really fixing any problems or punishing the masses?
Allow beer and wine sales in grocery stores.
Cheaper prices! If you aren't building liquor stores anymore, can't you decrease the mark-up slightly.
We badly need more product selection so opening the market to more private retailers is mandatory. We do not need the AB model where there is a store on every corner. I don't see anything wrong with the selling of wine and beer products in grocery stores. However, more money should be spent on education surrounding alcohol. Other places in the world have more access to alcohol without an increase in social harm. We need to change the culture around alcohol in this province.
We should have more liquor specialty shops that are owned by the government and no more private stores.
The Province should consider getting out of the wholesale business as well. Let's have more competition.
I believe the stores are run very well and a couple of extra stores might not be a bad thing. But extending hours which I believe are good & give people plenty of time to buy liquour is not a priority. I don't believe young people need to buy liquor all night. We managed as young people, to buy our liquor to party, within the hours provided and with the amount of government run stores available, including some offsale places. We already have issues with alcohol amongst all ages & more stores & extended hours I don't believe would help this problem. Thankyou for giving me this voice.
Your survey, by structuring the questions so as to suggest assumptions, is sleezy and blatently designed to provide you with an "alibi" for privatizing liquor stores. example: Participants are asked how they would rate the importance of "Increasing the governments ability for the government to reinvest in other priorities (ie: health care, roads, education, etc..). Naturally, everyone thinks those areas are very important, so why ask? The sleezyness of the question comes in the form of the implicit conclusion that privatizing liquor stores will allow more to be spent in other areas. No where is it pointed out to recipients that privatizing stores will only do it in the short term, and that if an expansion of government stores and hours of operation were to be used, instead of privatization, the long term revenues would be greater and the long term ability to pay for health care, roads, education etc. would be greater. The question, if you this survey were anything but a deceptive propaganda tool, would be something like: "If additional revenues for health care, roads, etc. could be obtained via privatization or by expansion of the number and hours of operation of government stores, which option would you choose?'

I could go on about other such questions in your "survey". I wish we had a government that was more honest.
I live in a rural community that has 3 liquor establishments, and I feel our liquor laws are very archaic. Any of these establishments should be able to sell offsale, as I cannot begin to see the reasoning as to why it is not possible. Also the liquor permitting for functions held as fund raisers etc. are also very outdated and cumbersome to meet the requirements. These also need to be brought up to the 21st century. I am all for privatization of the liquor outlets, to let us catch up with the rest of the modern world.
The Alberta model works. I would enjoy having liquor sold at places like Costco.
Do not privatize our liquor stores or any other Crown Corp. We are only 1.1 million people, we need the revenue to ensure we are a prosperous province for all citizens not just the rich. The rich already buy their alcohol in Arizona and bring it back thru Alberta. They will never purchase local. Privatization will not allow us to compete wih Arizona prices. The current process is not broken, off sale will suffer if the Sask. Party goes ahead with privatization. We will have less revenue for the province, lower wages for the workers, and no benefits for the workers. Currently only big business has opened retail outlets, even the small business can not compete with them. Change the law for micro breweries to sell local, instead of thru thr warehouse in Regina. There must be a process that can ensure micro breweries will also survive.
We have laws in place to protect us from harm, no need for price constraints! Markets should dictate prices!!!
Why not just bring the standards up to other provinces and American states? Most places have full private, or hybrid systems. A lot of the "safety" arguments put forward from those who oppose any change don't really hold water. Presumably, the relatively tight publicly-administered controls on liquor should produce good outcomes, but by many measures (impaired driving, acute alcohol poisoning), Saskatchewan fares no better than any other place. And for that, we get poorer selection and hours at our stores.
The Saskatchewan Government should get out of liquor business. The ALBERTA private model is a good way to go and it has proven successful.
I feel that the pricing of the private liquor stores is very comparible. The product selection at SLGA is outstanding. The customer service is by far the best I have ever had. Why would you take the profit that SLGA provides to the province of Saskatchewan and mess with it. Why fix what is not broken!! Brad Wall will never get my vote again!!!
I love growler fill systems - any opportunities for small breweries to easily distribute their product are big pluses for me. I actually quite like the government liqour store nearest to my home. The hours and staff are great. I wish the prices were lower and that the selection was wider.
Giver ta yer liver bahd
-I want growlers! -Across Western Canada, our friends can fill their growlers at local pubs, restaurants, retailers and farmers' markets. As a fan of craft beer, I want that in Saskatchewan too. -I want distribution rules eased on brew pub licensees so craft-brewers can work with local retailers to set up growler-fill stations in their establishments across the province.
do not privitize liquor sales,or any other crown corporations!
1. The Saskatchewan Government will maintain it's social responsibility agenda even if they move forward with Privatization. 2. Booze will not be cheaper, Private business will still be required to purchase their booze from the SLGA Warehouse where they will receive a 25% discount on booze...they will still have to mark it up to pay for costs and make a profit. The Government will actually be making more money because they don't have to pay for buildings or Unionised employees. 3. I would definitely support reduced restrictions to the Craft Liquor industry in order to allow entrepreneurs the ability to enter this industry.
Allow and encourage the growler culture in Saskatchewan. Convenient, earth friendly, cost-effective and great product. Ease up restrictions on craft breweries to allow for fill stations across the province.
I want growlers! Across Western Canada, I can fill my growler at local pubs, restaurants, retailers and farmers' market. As a fan of craft beer, I want that in Saskatchewan too.

I want distribution rules eased on brew pub licensees so craft-brewers can work with local retailers to set up growler-fill stations in their establishments across the province. I want better special order selection.
The taxes on alcohol are outrageous. The claim that it reduces harm by making it less affordable is false. Product availability is poor at present for craft beer,it is better, but is still poor. It is worth the time and money to travel out of province and get products at present.
none
Today we are suppose to be a more modern responsible society. So when making decisions the overall picture decision making should come into play. This is more than profit, availability private or public. Alcoholism is a serious matter it touches many aspects of society. Human lives are at stake when these decisions are done. Remember the humans that may placed in danger. Health and health costs, addiction aid, family life, personal well-being. Promotion of healthy lifestyle, consumption, safe driving. etc But to sell liquor for the sake of selling liquor is not a responsible decision to me. So please when you do make decisions take all the major factors into consideration and do choose wisely. I do not see any reason to change things as they are now. I see lots of people who are under addictions. But if there needs to be more responsible actions that are required please do take into account of all the factors. For any decision making will have consequences. As I only live in Regina I have more than enough locations to purchase alcohol already. I am not sure if I know what a private vendor would look like. Is that a person who sells their own wine?
I would like to see more purchasing options, such as allowing growler stations at pubs and retailers. I would like an easing on the restrictions placed on purchasing at some business categories. For example, purchasing off-sale items at Beer Bros. in Regina has some requirements that seem unnecessary. My main personal interest is in having a wider selection of craft beer available. I have made several such purchases at Willow Park and the Saskatoon Co-op, but I have no particular preference for private over public, if they carry the items I'm interested in.
Do NOT privatize liquor sales
The amount of revenue that is generated by Saskatchewan Liquor & Gaming as it is now is a great benefit. Does not make sense to consider privatizing and jeopardizing what we currently contribute to programs now.
-I want growlers! Beer is better and they are environmentally friendly! -Across Western Canada, our friends can fill their growlers at local pubs, restaurants, retailers and farmers' market. As a fan of craft beer, I want that in Saskatchewan too. -I want distribution rules eased on brew pub licensees so craft-brewers can work with local retailers to set up growler-fill stations in their establishments across the province. -I want access to better selection without having to order a whole pallet.
I would agree with a mix of government run and private establishments however a limited number of private businesses with an expanded option of product. The taxpayer is currently getting a good return on the government run stores and we should keep that income coming in. I absolutely disagree with total privatization of government run liquor stores. I am not a government employee nor do I have a relative working at the government stores. Note that the government of Ontario just this month decided to leave their liquor stores under government control as they are making a great deal of cash for the cash starved province. Would be nice to pick up a bottle of wine or two when shopping at Costco but the liquor board store is right behind them so not a big deal for me.
This survey is directed towards the consumer, but does not talk about people who want to enter the industry as a producer. The SLGA monopoly and numerous regulations makes it very difficult to enter the industry, and limits potential for growth unless they get approval from said monopoly to do so.
I buy about 90% of my alcohol from Alberta because it is cheaper, and they have better selection. Even driving 2.5 hrs to Alberta (one way), it is still cost effective to buy there.
Must people drive to pick up liquor, why are samples allowed, so much for zero tolerance"drinking and driving" and with the blessing of the government
Go to the Alberta model!
I am more interested in increased selection and more knowledgeable staff than reduced cost or availability in grocery stores our gas stations. Reduced restrictions on places with liquor licenses, such as bars and breweries, to provide additional retail sales

would also be of interest. This includes allowing things like growler fill stations, etc.

Also, while not directly related to retail sales, reducing the restrictions on brewery's taprooms to allow children such as in other jurisdictions would be appreciated.

I do not agree with the Private Liquor stores within the province as Our government organization is socially responsible when it comes to the sales of alcohol in our province through Check 25,standardization, policies, ect... There is always talk that more jobs want to be created within the provice but if they go to private then all our government employees are out of jobs. I really think that this is not a good option for Saskatchewan. The people of Sask are truely misinformed and generally have always had opinion about goverment employees!!

No need for the government to be involved in the retail sale of liquor.

Expanded Private Retail is the best option, I think.

I would like distribution rules eased on brew pub licensees so craft-brewers can work with local retailers to set up growler-fill stations in their establishments across the province.

-Good for the environment (reusable containers!)

-good for building a community (I talk to the guys who fill my propane tank all summer, and the sellers at farmers' markets. I don't talk to the guys I grab 'n go get beer from...)

I love growlers.

If it was easier to get growlers filled up (ie get Bushwakker beer without going to Bushwakker) that would be cool.

Also making it easier for Micro Brews to start up. I feel the sooner we start normalizing alcohol instead of 'sin tax'ing it the more businesses can grow and attitudes change.

More selection and better logistics would help the SLGA save money. Allow producers to register their goods, and sell direct to consumers or businesses, rather than ruining product (i.e. unrefrigerated, handled beer) by shipping it all through regina.

Ease of access to a wide variety of beer is the ultimate goal.

Nobody cares who sells it, everyone wants the liquor tax reduced.

The gov't monopoly system is a holdover from post-Prohibition, nanny-state policy days. SGEU members shouldn't control how I purchase liquor. Please fix this!

I believe that the Govt. must get out of the liquor busness including the SLGA. We need to start acting like the free people that we are supposed to be. Anything less than the European model will be a failure. I can even go to Utah and buy beer and wine at a gas station. we are so controlled in this province(like cattle in beer gardens) this creates binge drinking.Its so nice to go to other countries and stop and buy a drink and stroll down the street or picnic in the park or beach. You just don't see any more alcohol issues in these countries than we do in Saskatchewan. In the end it really comes down to Socialist (NDP) control thing, lets quit being afraid of them and move on!

Things should be left the way they are. Why sell something that is profitable. Use the profits for health care, education, etc.

Keep the sales the way they are and keep the revenue working for us not the private sector

Government generated revenue from artificially high alcohol prices is an ethically questionable practice. I believe strongly in the privatization of non-essential services, especially the selling and distribution of alcohol.

If limiting stores within a certain area make it more than 1 so a reasonable selection is available throughout the designated area.

As the sale of liquor is not an essential service, the government should not be selling alcohol. Only essential services such as providing electrical, natural gas, and telecommunications should be publicly held.

Keep our public liquor sales profits in our province for the public good.

The wages to operate a cash register and stuff bottles of alcohol in a brown bag is out of control. Its not exactly highly skilled labor nor is it an essential service to get us all drunk? NO....so its time to privatize

What will happen to government employees who lose their jobs as a result of privitization?

Do not remove stores, so no one looses jobs, but rather allow private stores to open and attempt to compete. I think they will not be able to stock the selection we have and need to have now.

I support a fully private system, similar to Alberta and the dismantling of the SLGA supply chain monopoly in the province as well.

SLGA has shown that they're unable to properly manage their supply chain when it comes to craft beer in government stores.

The shelves are usually bare and when they do bring in product, it's either not what consumers are looking for or it sells out instantly because it's very popular and SLGA forecast demand poorly. This demonstrates that they're very out of touch. These limitations are also hurting businesses. Craft beer focused restaurants have to carry extremely large inventories because ordering takes so long through the government system. By eliminating this barrier, more craft beer bars and restaurants could operate at much lower operating costs. I applaud the recent legislative changes that have allowed small businesses like Nokomis and Rebellion Brewing to open but it needs to go further to truly give Saskatchewan residents the choices that they want.
Stop the privatization!
Don't set prices but put appropriate taxes on liquor to keep people from becoming drunkards. Make enforcement of drinking & driving/working a priority. Make smoking tobacco illegal instead, there is no upside to the habit.
I would be upset if private liquor stores on urban reserves could sell liquor tax free similar to gasoline and cigarettes. Please ensure this does NOT happen.
sask party has to date had more focus on easier access to alcohol than the time they have spent addressing addictions issues
I manage a bar in Saskatoon and I would definitely like to see a shift towards full privatization. I would like to be able to decide which products I sell in my bar rather than be restricted by the limited selection SLGA offers. I understand that most products can be special ordered by the case but this is not always practical when looking for speciality items that sell slowly or are expensive.
Should be more flexible with specific methods of selling various forms of alcohol, e.g. should allow growler sales of beer in other retail establishments, liquor should be available in other outlets such as grocery stores in urban areas as they are in rural area franchisee operations
Liquor sales should be allowed in all retail outlets. Grocery, gas stations, etc.
I believe In free enterprise . Let the market look after itself.
Speaking as a SLGA employee I find it disheartening that so many people want to see me out of work I work hard and try to do my best and I'm sick of our so called Union doing nothing to defend their good employees I feel sold out and unappreciated by both my employer and the people of Regina there is obviously no reward for doing a good job and trying to be a good employee customers don't understand that having private stores will not benefit them as far as having cheaper booze and contributing to social programs we at Slga work as cashiers warehouse personnel security guards and product knowledge experts not to mention janitors our wages seem to be a sticking point with consumers but I would like to know what they would expect to be paid private liquor stores will put too many people out of work or looking for another job finally if it isn't broken don't fix it
What's done in Alberta doesn't make it magically perfect everywhere else.
Don't close existing stores, but future expansion could be either government owned stores or private stores depending on the community and needs.
i was under the impression that our public liquor stores turned a profit, yet this survey seems to try to create the impression that investing in public stores reduces our ability to pay for essential services... seems like the governments decision has already been made on the matter. Also i would be concerned about the incentive(profit) that private liquor stores would have over the public ones to sell to minors.
From what I have seen in Alberta Private stores tend to have higher prices with the exception of Superstore who have specials.
Please do not make alcohol more accessible than it already is in our communities. Private off-sales in our community ignore rules around both amount sold and hours of sales, often selling to extremely intoxicated people into the early morning hours (e.g. 4 am). This is inappropriate as far as I am concerned.
The protectionist nature of the industry needs to stop. This protectionism cripples government from creating sound policies and legislation that actually make sense and put the end consumer (saskatchewan people)as the first priority. ex. why can't I buy cold beer in any liquor store in the province?
Full access too all product in every grocery store. No Govt retail applications what so ever. Completely private. No minimum pricing structure. Sell the product at the pricing the market dictates as well as the market models. You wish to open a Scotch store, is your biz model sound? Fill your boots. California Wine store? Again Biz model sound, financing solid? Have at it. Govt, shall only have part in the taxation, similar to the Alberta model, except, retail again, in grocery store not a separate building. Pricing in Saskatchewan is considerable higher than Alberta on almost all products. The exception in High end wines, Sask is somewhat cheaper. Loads of tax revenue is lost with out of Province purchases simply because of cost and selection. Far greater selection in Alberta.

I don't need private sales
I strongly support any move toward less government involvement in the retailing of liquor. The role of government is to regulate to ensure product and public safety, not to use these products for the raising of funds. The proper Canadian example of liquor retailing is the Alberta model. I would strongly support Saskatchewan in adopting the Alberta model for liquor retailing.
Liquor sales need to remain as they are and the government should stop the licensing of private outlets and spend on increasing the number of publicly owned and staffed liquor stores
I do not want to see private liquor stores. I want to see government maximize revenue from liquor. It it means building more gov't stores to increase revenue, I would agree to do that. This is an election issue for me & I would switch my vote from the Sask Party if more privatization is done.
Do not stay with the status quo and please do not go with any half hearted options for privatization. Keep the wholesale part of the business for now but do not rule out leaving that business in the future.
We don't have government food stores, gas stations, etc. why do we need government owned liquor stores? As long as the government gets the same revenue through taxes get out of running stores.
1. Unfortunately, quality of selection and purchasing of alcohols comes with variety and competitiveness. SK is so backwards, it's not even funny. Same, limited selection of wines and beers, over and over. Just going West of SK border is such a wonderful experience when visiting a liquor store. I hope that the edge will come to SK as well. Time to get out of the communist era, where people have only options allowed by the government... 2. If people do not want liquor stores in certain areas, they should have an option to veto. 3. Hours of operation do not influence heavier drinking. Heavy drinkers get their booze, regardless of these hours. 4. Finally, one should be able to grab a bottle of wine in a grocery store and not have to run to 5 different places.
I am a working professional and mother of two. I am a controlled alcoholic and plead with you to NOT make liquor more accessible. I wish it wasn't the case, but I know beyond any doubt that if I had to walk by beer and wine in the grocery store or gas station or convenience store or strip mall by my house every day this would have a direct, significant, negative impact on my family. I don't WANT to drink more alcohol. I don't want my neighbors and my friends to drink more alcohol. For me, my health, my career, my pocketbook, my community, my family, my marriage, my children ... I'm begging you to not make this part of my life harder than it needs to be. I know I'm not alone in this, but I don't know how many people who truly *shouldn't* have easier access to liquor will have the insight and motivation to express this. This is a terrible drug that wreaks havoc on vulnerable people and families, and even now it's easier to get than iron supplements. I have built my life around avoiding putting myself into situations where I know I won't have enough will power to resist this terrible addiction. I don't want my kids (who genetically will be predisposed to develop this addiction) to grow up in a community where liquor stores pop up on every corner and people treat beer and wine like alternatives to juice and milk. They need to understand that this is a controlled substance because there are serious harms associated with it. I'm originally from Alberta and I know what happens when liquor sales are given over to private industry -- it increases liquor sales. That might look great on your bottom line as a tax revenue, but there are real people and real families who will suffer from that increase in sales. Please, this in my mind is exactly the right role for government; this is a public health issue and a harm reduction issue; this is an easy way to improve and promote the kind of communities we all want to live in. Please don't make convenience more important than safety.
Liquor retailing should be left to the private sector.
It seems to me that current system of meeting the demand for liquor serves us well. Providing easier / more access to liquor whether through public or private outlets only increase the potential for social problems. Private business is motivated by profit, increasing the potential for abuse of laws governing the sale of liquor, particularly in a competitive market place serving a relatively small number of legitimate consumers. There has been no mention of how government will insure private vendors will not abuse regulations regarding sales or perhaps government doesn't really care as long as they or the private sector profits.
get out of the distribution and warehousing of liquor too. Let the private sector do it.
Because we live in rural Saskatchewan the liquor store we now have would no longer be if the government closed the stores and went to private and franchises. It would not be good for the people in our community. Lost jobs to those that work in the store as well as a very limited selection if there would even be a franchise in the community. The store we now have is well stocked and has a very nice selection of product. Any business taking it would not be able to carry a fraction of the products due to space limitations and cost of stocking product.
I prefer an "Expanded Government Retail System" that includes kiosks in grocery stores. This survey/gov't website info is blatantly biased towards privatization.
One option you are proposing is to only retain 'profitable' government owned liquor stores. I don't believe any of these are losing money. Your fulling SK residents with this because a definition of profitable could be: 1)losing $ 2) breaking even 3) only making x% profit 4) only makign XXX$ profit. It makes sense to close stores that are losing money or only breaking even but it's YOU that will determine what level of profitability is acceptable and that target could be so high that you close ALL the stores. You're playing games with this option and trying to fool stupid people.

Do not privatize liquor sales! Leave things as they are. Liquor sales provide an excellent source of revenue for Saskatchewan. We would be going backwards if we went like Alberta. Alcohol and tobacco sales taxes provide revenue to provide health care, roads and all the benefits we enjoy in this Province!! Do not change a good source of revenue to provide these benefits for Saskatchewan residents!!!
Thank you for the opportunity to speak!
I do not understand why the government would consider eliminating the revenue stream from government run liquor stores. The only reason I can imagine is a philosophical one which dictates "less government involvement ". Complete nonsense, we need government regulation.
All liquor retailers should receive the same discount on products. Government's role is to regulate, not to operate.
Stop selling off the crown corps. WE'RE NOT ALBERTA!!
I think that the current state of liquor retailing is abominable. The slga stores are staffed by overpaid undertrained people who couldn't be more apathetic or less helpful. Add in the fact that I can buy 16 or more sizes of bud lite but I can't buy craft beer except for the poorly selected beer stored on a shelf at room temperature after being stored in a warehouse for months or years. If the slga was a private retail store it would have gone under a long time ago.
Why is there so much promotion for alcohol? It is everywhere, acceptable everywhere. Fact is, alcohol is as deadly as cigarettes. Time to start considering the financial impact alcohol has in homes, society, and Health Care.
I am a 21 year old female and I feel safe under the current system of highly regulated government employees due to their focus on the safety of the public vs a private owner who would focus on just the sales to potentially minors which would cause more public harm then safety.
Once again the government is not considering the social needs of this province. Saskatchewan already has the highest number of DUI's but we are going to make alcohol more readily available to customers. There are people who have addiction problems and welcome the fact there are time limits.
Alcohol causes social harm. I think if the government relinquishes control of liquor sales and its establishment the harmful effects of alcohol would increase in Saskatchewan. Personally, I also feel that selling liquor at Off-sale locations is unnecessary and leads to increased binge drinking and drunk driving.
Government-run liquor stores are a good source of revenue to pay for public services. Please maintain these stores.
Selling Liquor in a grocery store is not a good option. For years there has been an increase in trying to make sure minors do not have access to cigarettes, so liquor should be no different.
I would prefer a flat rate markup as opposed to the current ad valorem method. And an end to gouging. Example Apothic red Alta 8.99 to 11.99. 16.99 SLGA. Product is popular price goes up rediculasly.
Sask Gov't liquor stores have always met our needs.
I checked off that I strongly agree you should continue to make the same revenue. I just thought I would mention I am aware that it won't change because your not changing your wholesale prices.
I would much rather shop at a Government liquor store as opposed to a private liquor store. Private liquor stores no nothing about the product in which they are selling & they don't care about what age you are. Plus in a private liquor store it is so impersonable & you can never find anyone around to help you. I love shopping at Government liquor stores, everyone is so friendly & eager to help you find what you are looking for. They are very knowledgeable about their products & are quick to answer any of my questions I might have. Plus it is a bonus to see that they are checking people for their ID. That why you know that the younger generation are actually getting refused service if they are under age. Private liquor stores don't care about age, they care about the sale more.
I would love to see alcohol sold in grocery stores. I do support private liquor stores but and the convenience of more locations but do not want to see them on every street corner as was the mistake in Alberta
Reducing harms caused from alcohol is of paramount importance. Internalizing these social externalities should be the role of government. Limiting alcohol consumption as a social norm should also be a priority when deciding to change liquor legislation.
Gov. should have nothing to do with liquor retail in the province. .

I don't support subsidizing overpaid unionized employees with my retail purchase of liquor.
I think if u make stores all private their will be more under-age kids getting alcohol plus I don't want our coffers going into corporate hands , think we should keep it public to pay for healthcare, roadways and education
The money that the government makes from alcohol sales should go the health, education and roads in the province. How is the money actually spent?
I think the investing in stores is not the same as investing in other things. choosing to operate stores requires a cost to doing business. I feel the govt has stripped the stores and the SLGA of its ability to grow and accommodate the dmands of the alcohol consumer. For example providing chilled beer, expanding stores when they need to be expanded, providing excellent staff education, and having the best locations for liquor stores in the province. I think maintaining a high standard for the business of alcohol retail is a priority, and having great stores is very important. I think the govt has failed the liquor retail in the province for years and has not kept up like it should have.
More convenient with more locations, longer operating hours, more refrigerated space, more efficiently operated. Co-op equity and cash back to owners.
Government involvement limits choice and increases cost. Government should regulate, not be involved in retail sales.
I support option # one. I think the current system works quite well...if it's not broken ..don't fix it! However, I agree with the current plan of any new stores should be private owned
If the government plans to privatize liquor sales, how do they plan to make up the lost revenue? Sask liquor stores need to be competitive with other stores. The only reason I would shop privately is because of better selection or better knowledge. It is important to me that liquor retailing remains through public liquor stores, rather than in the private sector.
If government run liquor stores can't produce a profit for general revenues, then the ceo needs to be replaced. I don't want to see money from the sale of liquor to go to private operators. Especially large, extra provincial businesses (Sobey's, Real Canadian liquor...)
It is hard to answer some of these questions as I have not had the opertunity to shop at any of the new private liquor stores in SK. My personal opinion is that government should follow the Alberta model with the exception of limiting the number of stores in an area. I lived in Alberta when they privatized and it became a gong show with 2-3 new liquor store opening up each block and none of them making any money!
Time to move government out of the liquor retailing business. It's a service that retail outlets need to handle. Alberta doesn't seem to have any issues with it. It's time saskatchewan joins the 21st century.
full private system including wholesale Govt set their tax rate for revenue
I do not think alcohol should be available in grocery stores. Most of them do not have enough security to prevent theft or on-site drinking of the alcohol, especially by minors.
Government run liquor sales has removed the possibility of fair competition. As such, selection is low while prices are high. I do not support high Union wages for entry level jobs. Inflated prices do not reflect a valuable service I strongly support privatized liquor. I am not in favor of government controlled liquor sales.
I was just in Lloydminster and visited a fully private liquor store. The owner and his beer "cooler " was not cold at all. He put profit over service. We don't need that here.
LBS workers in Sask require a similar skill set to that of a convenience store worker. If the govt was paying LBS workers comparably (minimum wage?) I would be in support of government stores continuing.
Make it so stores can purchase whatever liquor they want. Not just what the goverment stores can bring in. Make it a true retail operation.
Preferably #5 Expanded Government Retail System, but if that option is not possible than #1 Status Quo would be the alternative
I strongly suggest that the government retain its public liquor stores and the revenue that it receives from them. I feel that if the government were to give that up then the proceeds from those liquor sales would not stay in the province. private stores would take their money out of the province and or country and we would not have the benefits of using that money to health, roads, infrastructure, education etc. I think both the people of this province and the government would lose if we gave this up. I am also afraid that going totally private would do more social harm. The private sector would not care who they sold to or how old they may be, whereas I feel out public store are very diligent about these concerns and that makes our city and province a safer place to live for everyone. We need to keep a strong hand in liquor retail sales and not give this up completely.

If it ain't broke, don't try to fix it!
The government needs to get out of public liquor stores!They are costly with way over paid staff. The general service is terrible. Not a good thing for the tax paying residents of this province! Private stores are the way to go.
I have lived in other provinces that offer liquor sales in private stores and visit other countries that provide the same service without any significant issues. It's time to get with the times and stop playing big brother.
For me it's all about the over priced liquor being sold by overpaid government employees. I go to Alberta quite a few times a year and usually bring home enough beer wine and hard liquor back so I don't have to be price gouged here in Sask.
The Govt should move on and open new private liquor stores as needed. The Nanny State is Old Hat and the time is long since past when the Government should run everything. I do not drink hard liquor but enjoy beer and some wine and I like to try different beers. Although the selection is better now that in the past we still have a long way to go.
sell all government liquor outlets & follow alberta's example
My first choice would, be the Status Quo, option number one I see no reason to change for change sake. The prices would stay about the same , choice could be increased through the present system. If you take ideology out of it what other reason is there?
Money generated from government owned liquor stores could be redirected to health etc. without privatizing. Privatizing provides profit for a selected number of people, whereas, profits generated by government owned outlets is passed on to all Saskatchewan residents. If a crown corp or government owned business is generating income, it should stay that way in order for everyone in Saskatchewan to benefit instead of a few business owners.
Saskatchewan needs to privatize. Stop having overpaid and grumpy liquor stores and allow for a consumer market. Thus will also create more jobs.
Given the option of govt liquor store vs private, I would always choose private even if it ment travelling further.
Further emphasis should be put on keeping unpasteurized products such as craft beer refrigerated. Centralized distribution through the SLGA makes it very hard to ensure product quality/freshness.
SLGA should regulate and set mark-ups, not retail.
Privatizing liquor in Saskatchewan in my opinion is a horrible idea. It will put thousands of people out of good paying jobs, which in turn is good for the economy. People don't realize private liquor stores are no cheaper than government. If not more expensive. And that money goes towards the owners instead of back into our province. It also makes it easier for people who should not be buying alcohol ex. People who are intoxicated or underage to get it. Not to mention when BC started to privatize they lost a great deal of money for the province and stopped anymore privatization of liquor. We need to look at these facts and make them known to the general public so people can realize what a mistake this is.
Do not privatize liquor.
I am not sure why you would ask about investing in other government program in this survey. Does the operation of liquor board store produce a profit that helps pay for Hospitals?I believe you are asking this question to sway the survey results, as we all want max revenue to support our health care system. You should state how much of the revenue for store operation is put into investing into our hospitals and are you willing to give that to the private store owners.
I feel rural SK will not benefit at all from closure of government run liquor stores
Please allow further deregulation in order to empower private stores that have the interests of the consumer in mind when it comes to product selection and refrigeration.
I like the atmosphere, service and product selection the new Coop Liquor Store offers.
I think the government stores could expand to meet the public needs. With the new warehouse opening next year you could turn warehouse space into cold beer/wine. To compete with private you could offer price match and offer weekend sales. The systems do have existing capability to process this.
Do not like Alberta system - too many little stores with poor selection, service and layout. Better product variety needed for wines which I think could be accomplished without having to go with all private stores.
All stores should be private no government stores
Survey stinks..have done others much better designed.
one article I read boasted about increasing sales of liquor in Saskatchewan, is that something we really want? Alcohol is a major blight on society, ask any cop.

You need to drop your profit margin. It's too high, and makes it too expensive to enjoy something that should be easier to obtain. You are pushing people into a corner, and their only way out is to make their own alcohol. Anyone with a brain knows that's not a good thing. Also, i would like to see good mead's put up on the government run stores. Saskatchewan has some stores that sell it, but not enough, and the few types they carry taste terrible in comparison to what it "should" taste like. I personally would like to see the price of alcohol drop by 4$ for all types. If you need to keep the profit's higher than this would allow, then just drop by 2$ on the smaller bottles, with the larger drop being put on the bigger bottles. Most addicts problems stem from the price, and not the liquid. It's because they cannot afford to get the help they need that they keep drinking. I have seen it with too many people now to accept otherwise.
I've lived in B.C. and I think they have a good balance between private and public liquor stores. I feel it allows for more selection as retailers are looking for different products to sell. And with B.C. they don't have liquor stores everywhere like in Alberta.
It's the 21st Century. I cannot believe we are actually having this conversation; we are in a time where cost savings and efficiency should be top of mind. This makes total sense, and will allow government to spend money on things like healthcare and education. Next on the list is making it so that regulations on adult entertainment are changed.
Liquor prices are considerably less in many jurisdictions in the world where there is private ownership and lower prices, and my experience is that it has not translated into serious social issues.
Maintain the 20km non compete radius for rural franchises so they can stay in business
When times get tough in Saskatchewan again, and they will. Where will the government of the day go to generate revenue?? People will be leaving faster than they came, not because of alcohol sales but rather because Saskatchewan is for rent, very little pride of ownership for the new residents to be a part of. What next SaskTel,Power,Energy?
The prices need to be comparable to Alberta. The bulk of my liquor is purchased on trips to Alberta as the price is ridiculous in Sask. More sales at less profit still equates to same revenue.
Just join the 21st. Century. There is no reason for the Government to be so involved in retail liquor sales.
stop selling our money making businesses
I really could care less about whether or not we have liquor in our grocery stores. We do not need to make it more accessible to our children. If people want to drink bad enough they will travel where ever needed to get it anyway and pay whatever price. I drink but not enough to really care about it, can do without. Lets put our efforts into the health and safety of our people.
So happy to see that a full range of options are being considered in this consultation. I am 100 per cent for the Alberta-style, fully private liquor retailing system. Free market enterprise! :) Thank you to the Sk Party Government for conducting this survey and for wanting to modernize our current liquor retailing system. Great work!
I believe we have enough problems in this province with access to alcohol which is a bigger problem than drug addictions.....lets be proactive and have the government continue to regulate the hours and prices so that we can be part of the solution not the PROBLEM!!!!! Privatization will only create more problems, but cutting each others prices and hours of operation will be at all times. I am NOT in favour at all of privatization, only because right now government has the power to regulate hours of operation and set prices. I would love to see alcohol taxed high just like cigarettes.....why are we not doing this already? What is our main goal? To keep people sick and down? Dependent? I say NO to privatization!!!!Here is a link to a very important article by the way.....I have no idea if this survey will even get shared with the "right" people but I am so about the thought of privatization when I see so many of our people addicted and down and out and living in poverty because alcohol is so accessible. I would like to see more prevention strategies being implemented in our province. I have heard lately that we will be part of an alcohol survey....I say why? what do we hope to achieve from the data collected? What is the long term plan for the data collected? We already know that we have a high number of people who use/drink alcohol in the north but what is the long term PLAN in collecting this data? Thank you
The existing regulatory structure of the SLGA provides less selection at a higher price when compared to other neighboring provinces. Additionally, archaic regulatory requirements imposed by the SLGA are hindering Saskatchewanians ability to responsibly experience new products. I am an adult. I can manage my alcohol consumption. I don't need the SLGA attempt to manage this for me by inflating prices and limiting availability. It is insulting that my government thinks it knows what is better for me than I do.
The government should opt for privatization of liquor stores same as Alberta, it not just will help in generating revenue, but will also open doors for more employment opportunities and entrepreneurs.
Please leave things the way they are. The current model works fine in our province. It provides good paying jobs that contribute to our economy in a positive way. Sale of liquor also puts money into education, roads, and other infrastructure. I do not want to see a bunch of liquor barns with people making min. wage like in Alberta!!!

I go to the states for winter holidays where you can buy everywhere and I drink no more than at home.
My largest issue with government run liquor retailing is disproportionately high wages for unionized employees. I don't necessarily mind the 'sin tax' applied to liquor - having said that, I purchase liquor in Alberta and the US whenever possible because SK prices are not competitive.
I like the thought of being able to purchase wine and beer at grocery stores.
I am quite satisfied with the current situation for liqour retailing in SK and see no need to waste energy, resources and money on something that is working fine as is, simply for ideological reasons. I find it to be a bit of a joke for the SK government to be purporting 5 options when they have stated quite clearly that they will not even consider some of them. This is not any form of true "consultation" to have one's mind made up and still ask the questions. Kind of a farce that most people can see right through.
I spend the winter in southern US. liquor is everywhere and they seem to have less DUI,s, drunks or problems with youth drinking than we do.
I believe the status quo should be maintained. It isn't hard to get alcohol. Anyone who wants to be able to get theirs even more easily here may have a problem.
We should consider moving to a flat government mark-up like Alberta. Also, we should emulate their distribution system. Liquor in Saskatchewan is over priced and selection is weak.
The first section of the survey makes little if any sense.
I agree with the Sk government involvement/regulation of liquor markets, however this can be done via legislation and continued involvement in the wholesale area. The retail level experience needs improvement in the areas of hours of operation, product selection, number of full service retail locations. I would prefer this expension of the retail service experience to be private as this would entice a higher level of local competition and invite even better product selection, hours, locations, etc.
I truly believe that privatizing of liquor sales is a good thing for everyone
I find it disappointing that I have to go out of province to get a deal on liquor. I pay enough taxes on my gas & PST is it really necessary to tax liquor as heavily as it is? So I am very much in favor of the Alberta style Liquor franchises
Some of these questions can only be described as push-polling. To ask about whether the government should concentrate on health care implies that it can only do so if the government abandons its role in liquor sales. Since this is patently untrue, the poll, and (I believe) the government wishes to fool the poll-takers with a false cause argument. Polls should not lead the participant inescapably to the outcome preferred by the polling sponsors. While some questions were reasonable, MANY were impossible to answer without indicating support for privatization of Liquor in Saskatchewan. I do not support privatization of Liquor in the province, but I expect that my poll results will be interpreted to show my support. Variety can be increased in public stores. Service can be improved in public stores -- the private sector can have terrible service, so privatizing does not necessarily meet a desire for good service and knowledge. I find this poll troubling.
What I want to do is open up a craft beer store that can also sell growlers - refillable glass or aluminum containers - of local craft beer. In addition to this I would like to be able to have a small-medium sized beer brewing facility attached to the back end of the craft beer store where I could produce high quality craft ales(being fully health and safety certified) for sale at my craft beer store, other stores in SK (and out of province) as well as well as kegs of beer to local establishments. The current laws for some reason prevent this, but there is no reason that a business like this could not exist simply due to laws and zoning requirements. This is my dream, but the current laws are preventing it from even being considered...
I fully support the move to privatize liquor sales in SK. Saying that, I also believe the currently owned and operated gov't stores should go up for sale but a minimum reserve bid should be put on them and if it cannot be achieved the store should remain gov't owned and operated.
Great job on the push-poll! I bet that won't distort the results at all. That is sarcasm, by the way. This is a disgraceful survey. Next time, try an honest approach and create an objective survey.
Brad Wall needs to lower the price of Alcohol. Privatizing will not make prices cheaper like Alberta, the Sask Party has already said as much. So what do we gain ? If prices were like Alberta I wouldn't have to drive there twice a year . So if you

are going to make liquor private make it cheaper. Drunks are going to drinks regardless
want greater choice, more flexibility and more convenient outlets that private retailers can provide
I am adamantly opposed to privatization of ANY public service. Your poll questions are very leading and will not accurately reflect the real opinions of the public.
Leave everything the way it is.
If the liquor Board was open later and offered better selection I would never go anywhere else.
Ontario's LCBO is an excellent model of how a provincial government can sell alcohol at competitive prices and (more importantly) provide excellent selection. SLGA-run liquor stores aren't even close, so until the SLGA learns something from the LCBO, I fully support increased privatization in Sakatchewan.
Keep the government share the same to address the harms contributed to drinking. Keep government stores in cities only because it will be a political issues.
More selection would at government owned liquor stores would be nice.
This a commodity, it should be sold anywhere by any retailer to sober of age adults.
its very nice to pickup a bottle of wine with your steaks see superstore kiosk in other provinces. Convenience of picking up your lemons and clam with your vodka
Gov't should still have control but with retail outlets rather than Gov't stores.
I also buy in Alberta because of the better selection.
You conveniently have excluded a 6th option which makes more sense than the other 5 - If it is not a question of price, then why not just allow stocking existing stores with all the brands that private outlets now stock rather than restricting gov't stores so they can't compete fairly?
Loss of revenue to fund. Impact on people who have alcohol related problems that depend on goverment funded programs
Please move ahead and abolish SLGA. I hate the SLGA. The floor on liquor price is . So many reasons we should privatize liquor I can't list them all.
Currently SK operates a very good system of alcohol sales. It is however a good idea to introduce private stores along with government operated stores to create competition which improves efficiency. I support that the government continues to earn revenues from alcohol sales. I support setting a minimum price for alcohol to avoid the social harm of cheap liquor
I don't understand how investing in liquor stores to make a profit (as it does now) is not reinvesting in oneself. Selling the SLGA franchise for a one time shot would be a very poor decision financially and economically. The amount for profit from the SLGA to the general revenue fund is good. Please don't sell off something profitable that gets invested back into the community. It's been producing a profit year after year by contributing to the General Revenue Fund. No idea why you would change something that is doing well.
Agree with plan to not build any new liquor store buildings. Continue wholesale but get out of retail side.
Saskatchewan definitely needs better selection and variety at its liquor stores (whether they're private or public). The selection of higher-quality craft beer, liquor and fine wines, for example, is currently atrocious in comparison with many other provinces (B.C. for example) and States. Given the popularity of many craft breweries and distilleries throughout North America, I believe that there would be a substantial market for increased selection in Saskatchewan stores. And, quite frankly, I don't believe that private specialty beer, wine and liquor store provide much of a risk to "society" as is sometimes argued by SGLA (simply given the nature of the stock that a specialty store would retail in contrast to the current government stores - I'd imagine the opportunity to buy a 12-pack of Bud Light attracts more underage purchasers and/or people that might abuse alcohol than a great craft bourbon). Furthermore, if the argument is truly about supporting government jobs, maybe the government stores should try to be proactive in increasing their selection instead of relying on regulations that keep other retailers out of the game (it doesn't matter to me where the access to craft beer comes from - government stores or private).
The site failed to inform how privatization would benefit the province. Sobey's family is from the East. how could their profits possibly help Sask? I feel like Mr. Wall is selling us out to the rich. Shame.
Please bring growler filling stations to Saskatchewan private and public liquor stores
I disagree with the percentage that the government marks up alcohol and the liquor consumption tax here. It is ridiculously high.
I disagree with the union's take on the loss of profit, if anything there should be more profit as overhead should drop
the time has past for government controls on alcohol, lets start letting people fend for themselves

Government should be involved only in regulation of liquor, not sales. I should be able to buy beer in the grocery store like in the States. Restricting access has not prevented any more alcoholism here.

No

Invest government resources into schools, roads, elderly, health care not liquor stores.

Limited selling in grocery stores would be great for convenience, but the bulk of sales should occur through government-owned and -operated stores. I strongly support the application of demerit taxes to alcohol and cigarettes, even though I consume both.

While it might not be indicative of future retail stores, the selection available in the Co-op and Sobey's stores in Saskatoon is far better than that available at the PoS liqour stores.

I have no strong affiliation to either type of store, but would like the opportunity to vote with my patronage what store I will shop at based on selection, price and convenience.

I think that if the privatization of liquor is working and has been working in Alberta why wouldn't it be done in Saskatchewan. People wonder why liquor is being bought in Alberta and then brought back to Saskatchewan, well when you can save money by doing so why wouldn't you

Selling of alcohol in government stores is a great source of revenue. Do not sell government owned stores but in fact, open more.

I strongly agree with the idea of gov't getting out of the liquor retailing business. I find the survey a bit misleading though when it talks about maintaining levels of revenue from liquor sales. I don't know if you mean levels of actual retail sales or taxation revenue.

For me, the benefit of a private liquor store is that private stores are more likely to take a risk on non-standard items, particularly if they have a selection of try anything once customers. Ingredients is about as close to this as I can think of. I would love for a store to have a bit more freedom to bring in a case or two of something without expecting one person to have that entire case. It would also be great if the regulations on what could be sold in this province were relaxed a little bit. Right now if I want to try a new rum, or beer I pretty much have to pick something up while travelling. This is a sharp contrast to the availability of experimental cuisine, where I can walk downtown to any one of a dozen unique restaurants and try something truly new.

The idea of liquor and public safety is great, I don't want that to be lost, but right now there is less artisanal culture locally around alcohol than food, and since they can quite healthily go hand in hand I would like to see a little reform go into bringing this closer to equality.

I don't see how we can be expected to comment on preference for government or private retailers on the basis of samples, price, location or hours when there is only one private retailer available!

Absolutely dead AGAINST privatizing our liquor stores as I see NO benefit to us as residents.

According to my understanding there will be a definite loss in profit to the province and the way I read it, even if the loss is ONLY 1% of the revenue of $450,000,000.00 that will be a loss to the government of $4,500,000.00 and the only way you will get that back is by raising taxes someplace .... Whether it be PST or Income tax or wherever BUT that loss will have to be picked up by the residents and tax payers of the province and as a long time resident of this great province I truly feel we already pay way too much in taxes!!!

Naturally we would like more money used for our health care, education of our youth and fixing our roads BUT if that is not happening with the current profit we get from our government run liquor stores then for damn sure the government is not going to be able to improve any of them with a minimum loss of $4,500,000.00 per year (which if exact calculations are used I would bet the loss per year will be way more than that!

I also am afraid that with the privatizing of liquor stores (even if you say now they will have to follow regulations i don't think they will always follow regulations because they will only look at their bottom line) so the RISK to public safety will increase!

I am afraid some of the public believe the price of the alcohol will be lower but we both know that will not happen. If anything the costs will go up...if not in the immediate future for sure down the road cause that will be the private business mans profit (and face it, nobody is going to be in business to lose money) plus I would bet the wages for their employees will go down again to try to increase their profits.

.... I really DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY OUR GOVERNMENT would even be considering privatizing the ONE corporate business that makes them a profit and helps pay the DEFICITS that the government incurs with their other corporate businesses they run (such as the Saskatchewan transportation Corporation...and the huge expense SaskPower has cost me as a resident in the faulty "smart meters" which is another big thorn in my side and another story at another time!

One suggestion I would like to make is that INSTEAD of having your own stand alone liquor stores, why would you not sell the buildings and then lease them back OR lease locations in another spot that would even benefit the business next to the liquor store. This would reduce your expense in building maintenance and the landlord couldn't find a better tenant than the

government! This would be the perfect answer to reduce your expenses and keep the liquor stores as they are and their PROFITS even bigger!! Bottom line .... Please DO NOT PRIVATIZE
I've shopped at private retails in other provinces and much prefer Sask stores. Have heard complaints about staff and have never experienced this problem.
When speaking of government investing in liquor stores, I think it is prudent to do so in order to increase revenue for the government.
I like the idea of private liquor stores to bring in a larger selection of higher end product such as wine and craft beer. I feel that these items pose little additional risk to public safety. I also fully support and am excited about the new regulations making it easier to purchase BC wine in Saskatchewan. I believe products should be equally available throughout Canada if they are produced in Canada.
More than one of these questions seemed to indicate that investments in operating Liquor Board stores is depleting money that could be spent on other sectors when in fact it's these revenues from SLGA that go a long way in financing our hospitals, roads, and many other sectors. Misleading I think
We need a greater selection of craft beer. -I want the law to allow people to sell or retail beer and brew beer in the same establishment.
Essentially I agree that there should be a minimum price for social reasons, but when you can travel to the next province over and get significantly cheaper product, it feels like an unnecessarily high price. Also, being able to buy alcohol when I'm grocery shopping or down at the corner store would be a welcome change. Basically my problems are that cheaper and more convenient alcohol acquisition exists elsewhere in the country.
I would greatly appreciate having the same options open to me as I would have, for example, in Alberta. A) The taxation on alcohol in Saskatchewan is WAY too high - sure, it might limit those with less money from accessing an excess of alcohol, but for those of us who earn a modest wage and want to occasionally purchase alcohol, it would be WONDERFUL for it to not cost an arm and a leg! And honestly, those who want to drink alcohol have ways of achieving that 'drunk'/high state that are less expensive than purchasing alcohol directly – which prove to be LESS SAFE and likely cost more for our health system! b) Greater availability of items such as beer and wine in corner stores/grocery stores would put us at the same level as provinces such as Quebec. c) I am comfortable with the government continuing to regulate the types of alcohol allowed in the province but I do believe the tax level for alcohol in this province is ridiculously high, and prompts individuals such as myself, to want to import alcohol from other provinces (and even the United States -- EVEN after paying duty) whenever I travel.
Studies indicate that hours of availability and convenience impact alcohol related liver disease more than other factors. Reducing hours of availability and increasing distance to liquor outlets decrease alcohol related liver disease.
The government should invest in its crowns and government liquor stores if they want to increase revenue to put more money into Healthcare, education, affordable housing and what not. I am strongly opposed to this government selling off our province to benefit business and taking away from the taxpayers of this province.
Govt should continue to invest in liquor stores as required in urban areas to help increase revenue to further support education, health care, roads etc. According to the data presented, at 12 to 13% costs for Urban stores (top 20), Govt is losing 3.5% based on the 16% discount it gives private stores. 3.5% of the top 20 stores revenue is 8.5 million annually. The 12-13% costs include the head office costs which would not increase with more urban govt stores as population increases and needs arise. The costs to run these new stores would be even less than 12%, thus costing the govt even more money. The simple fact is that govt should continue to operate and build (lease) new govt stores because they make more revenue than if they are run by private business. They also create more higher paying jobs that can support families and pay the govt more income tax.
Liquor prices should be more in line with those of Alberta. I know that Gov't depends alot on the profit of liquor, but is it really necessary to pay tax upon tax upon the gov't profit. Maybe private retailers should have a larger profit margin to support their ability to carry more extensive product lines.
We have rural liquor sales in the grocery store for years. What's the problem for cities. Govt should wholesale only and probably make more money and less hassle
Gov't should not be in the business of selling alcohol. Staff within the gov't stores are paid way more than their basic retail jobs merit.
I would support Semi-Private

Private franchises should be able to compete directly with government stores. We don not need new government stores. If the government stores are losing money close them.
We have enough liquor stores now - we don't need private stores. You say you will invest money in Health Care, etc. - but will you? How can you have more money to invest if you keep the stores you have now without closing them and you will also lose revenue? What about the employee jobs? This all sounds like a losing proposition to me!
I live in Estevan and every time I travel to USA I Buy cheaper alcohol. And same with Alberta every time I'm there I buy cheaper. And I know a lot of people who do the same thing. So think about the lost income there from thousands of people doing that.
Adopt the Alberta model. Why charge 10% consumption tax instead of 5% PST? Social harm is not my concern. Do away with the consumption tax. And don't forget to reassign McMorris immediately.
SLGA Store employees are far superior to the two new private liquor stores in Saskatoon when it comes to Product Knowledge, but far inferior to the work ethic and attitude that the private store employees have!
If it's not broken don't fix it
We currently have the worst selection of products of anywhere that I have visited. There are many people in this Province that would greatly appreciate changes that encouraged a wider selection of wine in sk
I find private retailers are al ways more pleasant!
As is many good jobs with decent pay otherwise probably min wage... Health concerns with more availability.No need to purchase alchohol at say a grocery store.. The profits as is is beneficial to Sk But you could modernize the existing way of marketing, put on specials or reductions in pricing. As is creates employment, with more jobs otherwise all one does is add a minimum of staff at low wages.. What is wrong with our system, do we have to follow others , like Ab , we are unique and what is wrong with that...
Keep it government!
Governments have no business selling alcohol.
Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback on this topic. Much appreciated.
Go the Alberta route
I believe government should solely concern itself with licensing and enforcement. All sales, wholesale and retail, should be in private hands. let the open market determine prices and ability of retails to operate or fail as the market decides. Wholesale should be open to all retailers. Government should get out of the way.
Before more private expansion, offsales s/b given slga discounts to be competitive with other private vendors.
I really love the variety of alcohol in private liquor stores. A much better selection than government liquor stores.
I support a mixed avenue of keeping the profitable government stores going but letting privatization happen with new businesses and liquor stores
I absolutely enjoy the new private stores and they should be encouraged. At this time, with our infrastructure deficit so high, the government should be focued on roads, schools, hospitals, etc; not building liquor stores. It should be easier for microbreweries, especially local breweries, like Nokomis, Bushwakker, Rebellion, etc to get product into liquor stores. They are an economic driver and we should be encouraging them and trying our best to move their product.
Stocking shelves and running product through the till does not require a high paying government job plus pension. It should be considered a retail job and be paid accordingly. Non union workers are able to ask for id and not sell to minors.
The mark up on higher end products is outrageous. I haven't bought scotch in the province for 2 years nor will I ever again until the taxation system is revised.

Privatization is pointless if the government still controls pricing, there's no benefit to the public.
Achieve government efficiencies. Too much red tape, and too many overpaid employees and executives.
You can buy beer and wine making kits in grocery stores at any age for a super cheap price, and there hasn't been any considerable amount of negative effects due to this, if you want to drink, you will find a way to drink. Government regulation won't reduce people in poverty consuming alcohol. Education, motivation and taking these people out of poverty is the solution.
Alcohol is too expensive in Saskatchewan. I know a lot of people that go outside of the province to purchase.
If you are going to change the liquor landscape then either #2: Expanded Private Retail or #5 Expanded Government Retail would be my preference. I would only like #5 if we adopted Manitoba's LC model as they seem to have pretty good handle on things, not like the tire fire that is Ontario's liquor situation. But honestly as a craft beer enthusiast, my main gripe is lack of choice and perceived slowness of new products being made available. To be fair it has gotten better in the last few years, and I understand most people are not me, but there is still much room for improvement. One thing is allowing the private stores to be able to go outside of the government channels when bring in new stock, which would allow for a greater variety. It would also allow them to bring in more seasonal products, which is fairly common in the craft beer industry. The government can still take its cut but allow the stores to experiment more with their product. Allowing greater interprovincial liquor trade would also help us sample the amazing liquor that is produced in our country. And finally to stop mandating what private stores have to sell. I highly doubt people go to Willow Park to buy Canadian and Budweiser, so why force them to sell it? It cuts down on their revenue because it they have to buy unwanted inventory.
I typically spend a about six months of the year working outside of Canada and find Saskatchewan liquor stores generally compare poorly with a lot of liquor stores outside of the country for their selection of wines and single malt whiskeys.
There are a few questions regarding the governments investments in Liquor retail, but all the informational material indicates that the retail industry makes far more money than it costs. The money used to invest in other priorities seems to come from Liquor sales and markup. As a government operation, I feel the government should be the one to provide to smaller rural communities as a service, even if they are not as profitable.
Instating price minimums to "prevent excess due to easy access" to alcohol, yet using this as a main revenue stream is unethical, and ineffective. Addicts will spend every dollar they have, regardless the price of the drug. I do not disagree with using revenue for gov't operations, but do not pretend that you're increasing minimum prices for the benefit of public safety - because it is not logical. Also, I do not care if a store is public or private, but for some reason the private stores seem to care more about the customer experience, and are more willingly competetive. Why is that?
without the money that liquor brings in, you won't be able to invest in roads, schools, and hospitals. when you give up the cow, you will have to buy the milk. the profits that you speak about will fall into greedy hands. sure you will still get tax revenue, but no profit.
I think that Alberta's private system has shown valuable promise in how to retail liquor--evidence being that government revenue from liquor sales increased from ~$405M pre-privitization (1993) to $729M in the 2012-2013 fiscal year--a 55% increase that was almost directly in-line with a 59% increase in volume of liquor sold. The question to be asked is: 'What would be the public cost to have this same increase in sales volume? Would more government-run stores cut into that revenue increase?'
Brad Wall's agenda is much deeper than this! Why fix what's not broken . The revenue generated from SLGA stores is incredible! What next are we privatizing our health care? Bye bye Wall!!
Government should only have a role in the regulation of alcohol, not in the merchandising or sale thereof. I remain embarrassed by Saskatchewan's reluctance to join the modern world in this regard.
Should remain publicly owned. Revenues from SLB go directly back into revenues for the province and those revenues support highways, healthcare, etc.
Please keep the government owned liquor stores and increase the services they offer. I don't want any private liquor stores.
In a province that is so pro "LEAN" why are is our government wanting to increase the amount of liquor stores and reduce the size of the hospitals and health care? Having more liquor stores will not increase the amount of sales. It will only disburse the sales throughout multiple stores.
Sell present stores to highest bidder just like you do with the off sale. Give protected area for the sale.
This is a democracy. Give the private sector the same rules and pricing and let the market decide which government owned stores should remain. Only the profitable ones should remain.
I am an offsale hotel licensee and my question is if they privatize will I be compensated for my loss of revenue and increase competition? When I purchased my business the offsale made up 90% of beer and liquor sales. That is what I was buying was

the exclusive right to sell in my area (outside of the Liquor Store). I think it's a fair question.
As a restaurant owner/operator I would like to purchase directly from private stores as well.
Yes privetization is the best way for the liquor industry I want to become a liquor store owner Do not give licences to big stores only like sobey we can run much better then them Thank you
I think the current system is fine. The government liquor stores do a good job - clean, safe, good selection, extended hours in the city and there is off-sale in smaller towns where the government liquor store hours are not open late or Sundays. Since the government is not changing the price structure on alcohol, even if there are private stores, consumers won't really benefit from lower prices. So in that case, consumers are paying about the same but we are eliminating good-paying jobs in favour of lower paying private store jobs. Also, based on my experiences in Alberta, some of the private liquor stores open until 2:00am really don't feel too safe, while I feel very safe in government liquor stores. Having government-regulated franchise and off-sales includes the private sector and has worked well up to this point - if it's not broke, don't fix it.
Keep public
I have never understood why the government was involved in retail or liquor sales and why oh why do we need unionized workers to sell me alcohol. They have never ever helped me make my alcohol selection.
I feel that allowing companies like Sobey's, Walmart, Safeway and Costco would be a positive step forward and provide some price competition similar to what exists for the sale of gasoline for example
changes need to be made to the distribution system to allow liquor produces sell directly to retalers
Competition is good for any business
It's time to get out of the liquor business. The Alberta model should be the preferred option. Serious consideration needs to be given to the expansive role of government in this province. Consider the expansion of small business, employment, greater convenience and lower prices to the consumer experienced in Alberta. The social good arguments used to justify Government involvement are weak and outdated. Consider the increased prevalence of alcoholism in our province relative to our western neighbour...
It is clear that the bulk of revenue is from the government acting as an alcohol wholesaler. I think it is time for the government to step back from front line retailing. The overhead of operating stores is nearly identical to the commission given to private stores and franchises. As a franchisee, I think the government does an excellent job of warehousing and distributing alcohol. I like the minimum pricing but would like to see some flexibility to use that to set sale prices. If the system were fully privatized, I would like the ability to go to a full line store to buy smaller quantities just like we do at the government run stores. As with nearly all franchisees, I would like the ability to carry the full line of domestic beers. This would be necessary to remain competitive in a fully privatized system.
Pricing is way too high. Too much government taxation on this product to get into retail then take more money in the form of LCT of 10% on retail pricing at restaurants. Hands way too deep in our pockets. I suspect overall revenue would increase if the overall pricing was lower due to increased purchases....less cross border shopping and some higher consumption.
All rural franchises in the province should be able to sell all beer. If hotels can sell bottles of spirits then franchises deserve the right to sell all kinds of beer.
Happy Saturday Brad! Go Raiders!
your wording in your options is very slanted, showing your preference to go private. I disagree on many levels. Also, I wish to note here that I did a price comparison 4 months ago in Alberta, and ALL products compared were more expensive in those private stores in Alberta...
Keep liquor government controlled lower prices and increase access.

I used to live in Alberta, and it was a million times better. Would love to buy beer at grocery stores like they do in the USA.
Putting a higher price on liquor to "create a no social harm" aspect to purchasing liquor and then allowing the privatization of more liquor stores or even putting liquor in grocery stores seems at cross purposes. By providing extra sources (you can call it competition, marketing or whatever), you are providing more choices/access to liquor. So you can add an extra $2.00 a bottle for example and it won't matter, if someone wants booze they will get it. By having someone get it for them, or by going to the local grocery store, or by providing extra incentive for Break and enters to access alcohol in lesser controlled businesses. It seems if someone wants to obtain something of value to them, they will manipulate/steal/to do so. When visiting in the USA they show constantly on the news of attacks on private businesses that offer liquor for sale. Keeping liquor in the big store chains with separate buildings seems to be a good slow approach. Or the "Wine" or "Distillery" store fronts are good. A decreased adjustment in price would be nice on wines.
I think the government should continue to own and operate the liquor stores as they provide good jobs and a reliable revenue stream for the province to support other important services as well as exert some control over the availability of alcohol.
get gov't out of private industry!
What on earth makes the government think that they will save money for other uses if they privatize liquor stores? The truth is they will lose a huge source of revenue and have to increase liquor control policing. The tax shortfall will then fall on the shoulders of the taxpayers once again because of government pushing half-baked ideas based on personal agendas.
Building a new school has nothing to do about a new gov liquor board store being built. The liquor board does not get money from general revenue to build a new building. It is wrong to use that example to the general pulic
It is buying liquor, not a new car. Gov. is doing a good job for once leave it to them.
Staff at gov't stores are not friendly and don't offer advice on wine. Customer service needs to be improved. Stacking shelves seems to take priority over asking customers if they need help.
Personally I like the current system as it is with public stores and offsales at a higher price for convenience. Since the government is making money off new stores, I would simply add more public stores to growth areas. Continue with the small town ones as well. Public stores have the downside of less selection and less locations. However private stores have overall higher prices (as seen in Alberta where prices went up over 10% after privatization, however lower taxation led to lower sticker prices). So personally I am not in favour of privatization like Alberta due to the likely price increases.
Sell off the existing retail real estate and use the money for to reduce debt. Even if revenues drop, expenses will also drop, a zero sum game
I don't agree at all with privatizing any more Liquor Stores. There doesn't appear to be any benefit to the consumer and will result in lost revenue to the Gov't as well as the loss of decent paying jobs that will become minimum wage part time jobs. As far as selection the stores, public or private, will only carry what sells. Under the currant system the Gov't owned stores could carry more vareties if there is a demand for it.
Instead of continuing with antiquated policies and ideas, it is time for Saskatchewan to follow the lead of other provinces and make changes. SLGA believes high liquor prices and limited retailers help prevent harm from availability of cheap booze, yet Saskatchewan has the highest number of impaired driving fatalities in the country and among the highest numbers reporting "harm" from their drinking or someone else's. Obviously high liquor prices and restricted access aren't doing Saskatchewan any favours. If people are abusing alcohol, they will get it one way or another regardless of the price or how far they have to go to get it; and if cheap booze available on every street corner was the cause of or main factor in alcohol abuse, Saskatchewan would be at the bottom of these lists, not the top. We clearly have other factors causing the alcohol related problems in this province (and specific segments of the population that are primarily responsible for said problems), and the government should be focusing on those instead of being so concerned about keeping alcohol out of the hands of the population in general. Also, there is no reason for having such a limited selection. The number of types of liquor available in other provinces that we cannot get here is absurd.
Off-sales in R.M's should go by area not population!
Prices for beer and liquor are ridiculously high, I recently visited a relative in the USA and was able to buy 30 cans of beer for $15. Reduce the tax on beer and liquor and give us a break.
I feel the private distillers and breweries should not have to go through the SGLA but be able to sell directly to the retailers. People drive out of province for the bargains, so we need to make it possible to compete here in Sask - keep our money @ home.
The biggest issues I have with liquor retailing in Saskatchewan is product selection and product pricing. Those two issues are

best rectified not through retailing but through modernizing the liquor supply management through your Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority. Saskatchewan people do not care too much about who vends liquor as there has always been a mixed retail system. Rather they enjoy going to the Great Canadian Liquor Store in Medicine Hat because they can buy the product they want for a good price. Therefore you should allow SLGA more flexibility or force more openness on the supply side to bring in new and innovative products people want in a timely manner and for a more competitive price. Then they will buy and you can keep the millions collected through liquor taxes and public vending. Related to this is allowing interprovincial transport of liquor. Frankly it is easier to transport liquor from a foreign country than it is to transport across provincial borders, especially on airplanes. You should get on fixing that issue, which is a simple policy change, and the SLGA modernization, also a simple policy change, and worry about playing with the retail sector later. Failing that, the only other option is to liberalize the entire system and allow liquor sales directly in any retail setting similar to most European countries. That is the most palatable choice for forgoing the money collected from public sales; to do otherwise is simply transferring profits from the public sector to a select few companies that have the economies of scale to maintain large scale stand-alone retail operations, similar to Alberta. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and good luck with your recommendations and eventual decisions.

Keep the status quo. Would much rather talk about something important actually. How about infrastructure deficit in our province. Education, Health, taking care of the old or infirm etc.

Let's keep a good thing going. Let's expand the liquor stores the government owns and keep that revenue for the people of Saskatchewan!!

I think the government should continue the current system. It seems like a good balanced approach that benefits the people of Saskatchewan.

I believe most people simply want a better selection of beer and wine and that the beer be cold. This is the experience one can find in most other Canadian provinces. If the stores remain public and revenues are still generated, all the better.

The cost of acohol consumption is a public cost, both in health and law enforcement. Regulations, availability, and revenues are all important in mitigating this cost to society. Presently Saskatchewan's costs presented by alcohol consumption, per capita is much lower than Alberta's. We should maintain this public control.

I find some of the questions extraneous in that they are trying to lead the discussion.

I am all for going towards the managed transition to fully private retail.

The government should not give up the revenue or have someone else make money that we should be making and invest that back into the province. The stores should move into the 21st century. Open longer to accommodate shift workers. Sell cold beer. Basically do everything the private store will do to make more money

the people that work at the liquor store r raising all the stink they just want to there overpaid jobs face it the government dug a big hole leaving like this all these years

I'd like to see greater support/less red tape and regulation for local, craft breweries and distilleries in the province.

Growlers - I'd like to be able to get growler fills at retail stores, restaurants, pubs and grocery stores. BC and Alberta have a strong growler culture - they are recyclable and reusable, and beer from the tap tastes best fresh.

I'd also like to see support for local craft brewers in the form of reduced red tape and harmonized regulations for licenses. Breweries can sell at farmers' markets, but brew-pubs licencees cannot? Why not?

Locally brewed beer tastes better, it's why England went from a handful of breweries in the 70s, to more than a thousand today. B.C. has more than 80 breweries, but we only have a handful ... is that because we don't like beer as much as B.C. or is it because of aging legislation that is burdensome and discouraging for new competitors to enter the market?

Also, Direct Distribution.

I support the easing of restrictions on direct delivery by craft brewers to local retail stores (Willow Park, Co-Op, etc) - if SLGA doesn't have the storage capacity to store the product in coolers, we should let the craft brewers store it to their expectations to ensure freshness and quality.

It doesn't make sense that Saskatoon's Paddockwood has to ship all it's product to Regina, and then ship it back to Saskatoon, simply to get into retail stores. That is wasteful bureaucracy at its best. It compromises the quality, increases costs for Paddockwood and consumers.

I think the SLGA serves a purpose, but it seems apparent to me they feel their hands are tied by the current legislation to help local, small businesses thrive when it comes to craft brewing and distilling.

The law needs to be more flexible and offer latitude for businesses to experiment and adapt to best practices learned from other, more-liberalized marketplaces.

Thank you for your time. Thank you for reading.

Have a good day.
The SLGA lists and pricies all products and brings them in through the government liquor warehouse then sells them only to private stores and CP's why not let the Public SLGA liquor stores carry them also?
I would like to see rules to help craft beer market and promoting local quality products in the beer, wine and liquor industry. I am fine with private liquor stores but beware of people expecting lower prices. Because having been to Alberta recently that is a farce in almost all of the stores.
I support the fully private retail system. I also support local, direct-distribution to retail stores by craft brewers! Craft breweries are up and coming and I think it is important to support these new businesses which is going to create something new for the people of Saskatchewan to be proud of and enjoy. Craft breweries are great for the tourism industry. Direct-distribution allows people to have fresh beer. Is there any other way?! Thanks for asking for our input!
I would like fresh beer, that is available via growler or other options.
Craft beer producers should be able to sell their products in liquor stores without all the red tape. Also, this issue is a non-issue that the government is throwing out there to detract from real economic and social issues. We're not that easy to fool!
If our present government gets a lot of feedback to change the current liquor retailing - then please change it! Otherwise we will all continue to make the trips to Alberta to continue buying their better choices of beer, wine, spirits. New breweries are opening- make the retailing profitable for them!!!!!
1. Growler fills should be widely available. 2. There should be opportunity for bona-fide private liquor stores. If co-op wants to open a store like Stoon's in Regina, they should be encouraged to do so ASAP. 3. Current beer selection at SLGA is better than it was previously, but still totally inadequate. There is huge unmet demand for real beer (e.g. people run to Willow Park when Fat Tug from lighthouse brewing is available). 4. Import limits into Sk from USA are wrong. There is a total limit based on volume, over which a person cannot import. No normal person will bring back that much spirits, but it is easy to hit the limit when bringing back wine or beer not available in Sk (see comment above about products not available). An Alberta-like limit structure whereby allowed beer volume is higher than that for spirits should be implemented immediately.
More selection of beer products please! Go to Willow Park in south Calgary, or Kensignton Wine market in downtown Calgary to see an example of what a beer selection should be!
Restrictions on product availability is often frustrating, specifically wine.
I travel out of province/country on occasion and I always grab a few bottles of beer and liquor from wherever I'm staying. I have noticed that the further away I am from sask, the cheaper the alcohol is. Example: bottle of belvenie single malt scotch 40$ in Hawaii. Same bottle same size here is around 85$. As much as I would like cheaper alcohol prices I have come to realize that our purchases go towards public services. And that I like. I just don't want to see a large surplus where there could have been more savings for the customer. I am also into craft beer and I purchase a lot from slga liquor stores. The prices again are higher than other provinces/states. The selection is below par as well compared to other provinces. I know the craft beer culture is just blossoming here in sask and slga has ramped up their selection but I would like to see them continuing a product that they previously had that stormed off the shelf. And maybe look at other provinces selections as well. We have good craft beer at slga but we are missing some craft beers that are popular in the world wide market. I don't see it necessary for a Saskatoon brewery to ship something to regina to have it sit in a warehouse only to get shipped back to Saskatoon for sale. I support local, direct distribution to retail stores from craft brewers. My survey was the best reflection of what I have written here. I appreciate the province taking the time to listen what we the taxpayers have to say.
Rural saskatchewan will not benefit at all in privatization. There will not be an increase in private sector jobs just the loss of good paying jobs in rural saskatchewan
Children should be allowed in brewpubs. My family just finished a road trip through the states and at every brewpub we went to, children were allowed. In some places children were allowed until 8 p.m.. Many places brewed root beer for the kids. This is very important for raising children who have a healthy respect for alcohol. They see people enjoying a beer for it's flavour, not to get drunk. Saskatchewan is definitely behind the times in it's laws regarding alcohol and I would hope that if this government is

serious about change , then it would consider allowing children in brewpubs so that the next generation can be raised as mature, respectful imbibers.
Private enterprise is ready to participate in liquor sales in Saskatchewan, and that's a good thing!
Most important thing that should come of any changes is having alcohol available at grocery stores - this convenience is more important than having off-sales. Do not want prices to increase in rural communities due to lack of competition if it goes private. Would like the increased selection in special locations/larger communities and ability to get new products in if requested.
Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion. Of the options being investigated by the provincial government, I think number 2 (an expanded private retail system) is preferable. The reason I say this is that private outlets can offer more interesting choices and thus allow the government-run stores to serve the more proletarian or mass-market demand. I am VERY pleased to see the increasing diversity of product appearing in the private stores (Co-op and Sobeys). It is my great pleasure to sample different beers, wines and spirits from all over the world and my belief that greater variety of product is therefore a very worthy pursuit. In particular I would like to see more imported beers being made available. I am also extremely pleased to see that more 'craft' beers are on sale, not only because it gives me the opportunity to support smaller local or regional breweries, but because the 'craft' ales and lagers are of considerably better quality than those produced by major, mass-market breweries. Thank you again for seeking peoples' opinions on this important matter. Please feel free to contact me if you'd like to ask me any further questions With kind regards,
There are many excellent Canadian breweries that struggle to find broad distribution in this country, while there is universal availability of questionable international varieties. This makes no sense. Canadians should have much greater choice of Canadian beers and ales, and let the people decide.
I think that in rural towns and villages that are currently services by a local vendor that there should be protection for that current vendor because otherwise those vendors will be forced out of the business in some cases if they have to compete against the Co-Op stores in those communities.
I understand and accept that government may have to tax liquor sales, but I do not understand or accept why government would have to be involved in the sale of liquor. The current laws on this issue in Saskatchewan are from a bygone era, and do not have a place in our great, progressive province.
More selection and ease of access to variety of craft beer. Also more of a focus on keeping beers fresh. There is a movement that is happening. You FILL the stores with wine choices, why not do the same with beer. Cash in on things that are happening. There is a reason you can't keep good micro/craft beer on the shelves.
collect tax cut overhead
I care about selection. There is a huge world of craft beer out there from many small breweries, and SLGA practices currently make it far more difficult than it should be for SK companies to be part of that, and far more difficult than it should be for me to get just a couple of bottles of something I have never tried. I care about freshness, and proper handling (store hoppy beers cold, the flavour can change dramatically in a week or two at room temperature!). None of this currently happens with SLGA's current supply chain practices. I appreciate the SLGA stores, for pretty much anything but beer. They are clean and well stocked, the staff are great, and they are efficient. Some competition is good for them though - I have noticed many of the things I have wanted them to carry for years show up the shelves a at the SLGA very shortly after Willow Park started selling it for example. On the other hand, having spent time in Quebec, I was very appreciative of being able to buy beer at the grocery store - I could decide on a meal to make, then easily choose a wine to pair it with. I could walk to the store if we decided we wanted a few more beer, rather than trying to find a ride to the closest off-sale. Let's be up front in this whole process though. Until the government (regardless of party) beats it's addiction to "sin taxes" on alcohol, and changes it's supply chain monopoly to allow more flexibility in small batch, limited distribution products, there will not be any meaningful change, regardless of who runs the actual retail storefront.
I purchased a bottle of Talisker 10 Year and Lagavulin 16 in Medicine Hat, for less money than a single bottle of Lagavulin in Regina. Markup is astronomical. Perhaps if there was greater selection, and Saskatchewan was selling beer while it was fresh, more people would want to explore and try new things (thus spending more money). I support local, direct-distribution to retail stores by craft brewers.
I think that locally owned store-owners have a great advantage in dealing with their customers, because they are familiar with

the community, their tastes, and possible potential problem customers.
If Saskatchewan privatizes, please do not limit the amount of store licenses. That would result in supply management problems like with taxi licenses that only serve the owner, not the public. As well, liquor in groceries would limit the amount of marginal liquor stores. Alberta has too many marginal stores that would never survive is liquor was available in grocery stores, like in Montana.
The limitations implemented by the government only made liquor more of a luxury compared to a way of life like our counterpart countries in the UK and elsewhere.
Need to Limit ability of " to corner the market on liquor sales.
Keep it status quo with some changes like let franchises sell cold beer, and make the samp profit as the private stores. Government should still control liquor sales.
I would vote for a Managed transition to a fully private retail system.
The government should allocate revenues from liquor sales entirely towards harm reduction from the negative effects of alcohol (e.g. increased brief detx units, increased long term programs for alcoholics, etc) and avoid the conflict of interest that arises when the government runs retail establishments which sells alcohol to these addicts.
I believe the government should expand on what we already have. The higher paying jobs from the employee's that are employed at the govrnment stores pays back in taxes to the province plus them employees' have more purchasing power with the higher wages. Higher wages mean fewer people making trips to the food banks.
Drunk driving and date rape among other things are big problems. More availability of alcohol will make social problems worse.
none
Do not privatize!
Craft distillers and brewers marketing their products at farmers markets etc
The Saskatchewan government needs to continue focusing on public corporations like public liquor stores. The Crown Coperations allow Saskatchewan resisdents to spend money in their province and in turn, that money is used to provide reassurance for all residents through public heathcare, education, highway safety, government jobs, pensions, etc. If the public spends money to consume alcohol then the public should reap the benefits. Alcohol use puts a strain on our health care system so it only makes sense that Saskatchewan keeps liquor stores public. The revenue from public liquor stores is beneficial to hospitals and clinics that support the public entering health care facilities with alcohol related illnesses. Having private liquor stores would increase the cost of healthcare, thus putting a strain on the Saskatchewan residents that work hard to support their families and their province. Their would be fewer government jobs/opportunities and drastically less revenue to support the ever growing costs of highway maintenance, health care facilities and health care jobs, the educations of our future leaders, and so much more.
1) Without any form of rebate on wine or spirits, how can off-sales compete with licensees or private stores? 2) How will the closure, reduction or retrenchment of government stores help reduce pricing for the average customer? 3) Off-sales discounts are determined by volume sold. Greater volume equals poorer discount. Again how does this create equal playing field and competitive pricing for the consumer or business? 4) How does the ad valorem mark-up help the end consumer and promote responsible consumption?
The sale and consumption of alcohol is different than other consumable products/services, due to the strong correlation between the negative health and social impacts that are associated with both it's sale, consumption and abuse. These additional health and social costs must be included in any discussion on liberalizing the sale and availability of alcohol, much the same way society's approach the sale of other controlled substances such as cigarettes, or other services such as gambling. It would seem absurd if politicians, swayed by the will of a small group of the voting public, were spending time and resources trying to convince the public that they should be allowed liberalize the sale of tobacco, make tobacco more readily available or compete against other provinces for the cheapest price for tobacco products. Why then are they doing this same thing for the sale of alcohol? Maintain the current system, use the LEAN management system to find efficiencies where possible that reduce overhead and improve efficiencies that can result in competitive pricing and better selection while maintaining good paying jobs for SK residents and that keeps proceeds of sales here in SK instead of sending them out of province.
I believe that the liqour stores should stay as it is. There are enough crimes, pity thefts, etc related to alcohol. By increasing the availability of the alcohol, it can increase the chance of all those.

I think the money should stay in Saskatchewan.
we have a pretty good mix of off sale, liquor stores, and specialty now. the need for ultra convenience like 7-11 is a sure social disaster, for drinking and driving. Saskatchewan already has the highest drinking problem in Canada.
The government should stop privatizing!
Keep the government operated stores.. it adds to provincial dollars
Government controls on alcohol has historically had the opposite effect than what is originally intended. As an example, minimum price controls to prevent social problems associated with sale of cheap alcohol only drive people to other substance abuses. The substance abuse (regardless of what it is) is escapism of a deeper underlying issue. Prices do not change this.
BC tried to privatize liquor and it cost them an election promise, Alberta is not working for consumers, and costing private retailers hardship. keep Sask as it is, 2 privates stores in Saskatoon will give the people that feel they need it the option. prices are not cheaper in private stores anyway.
We my taxes keep rising and not keeping up with pay. Don't take away another source of public revenue for when time get tougher.
There is very limited option on gov't priced domestic beer in rural sask. Why are we being ripped off based on where we live?
Keep the Gov't stores we have....and fix them when needed. They generate revenue you can use to build roads and schools. If new stores are needed go private if need be! If u sell them off and spend the money it IS GONE and we have nothing left for future use! Once you sell the farm you have no more revenue from it! Its that simple!
I strongly feel that the way the province regulates and runs liquor sales right now meets the needs of our residents and balances them with the damage that alcohol can do.
I like the way liquor is being retailed at the present and see no need for it to be privatized.
Price competitiveness and product availability are key. Liquor prices in our province are higher than other provinces due to the amount of taxation. Privatizing won't necessarily fix the price competitiveness - but ensuring that SLGA is (highly) efficiently run such that it can manage pricing (ie. small reduction in taxation would be appreciated ... that will prevent liquor sales going to Alberta!!!).
I believe a balanced system works best in Saskatchewan as we do not have a very large population base and rely on the profit of the sale of liquor for our services and I believe if we put it in private hands we will have to give up some of that revenue so that the (few)private sector can make more money. I feel for all the Gov. employees who have a decent paying job and can better support thier families and actually pay taxes.We already have less than half of our entire population in Saskatchewan paying taxes.
Saskatchewan is not communist Russia. Privatize liquor comrade.
I would like to purchase my alcohol at my grocery store, swipe my card once. Whatever role SLGA continues to play they must ensure there are abundant product selection options and availability for consumers. SLGA should work with the industry to find the best solutions going forward.
Yes, more thoughts than can fit in this box. Listen to the micros and people that have passion for the beverages you are bringing in. This will help everyone, both economically, and socially. Cheers
Why do I keep hearing about the "Alberta model", there is nothing wrong with us as a provinnce having our own distinct way of doing things.
The biggest issue is really price. It is ridiculous to have such high prices here. Alberta, Manitoba and the states are all way cheaper and they don't seem to have issues with enabling alcoholism. Those who can afford it will always buy it. In fact, you may even see more tax income in the long run with lower prices as people would buy more.
I think we should be able to buy liquor at places like costco and grocery stores like they do in Alberta..The gov't can spend their money in other places..This is 2014 lets get with the times..
I don't see the need for private liquor stores other than in small communities. If the government wants more selection, lower prices, or open more hours, then make the changes. The government controls the alcohol.
Do not expand privatization. The sale of liquor is best left regulated by government stores and the revenue kept in the

government hands. I like to go to the nearest outlet and know that I am paying the same price as everyone else and the profits are kept here in the province.
Great thing about private owned you get the unionized goverment workers out of the picture.Damn embarrassing about the wages these people make compared to the other retail outlet workers
I would like to see Expanded Government Retail System.
I would like to see beer and wine in grocery stores. Also lower prices to be more competitive with Alberta.
Prefer Alberta way, always go to private liquor stores when there, Sask prices don't come close to theirs majority of the time. Nice to see sales.
I feel product the product knowledge SLGA employees has is second to none and important to me when I make a purchasing decision. One thing that bothers me about private stores is the safety and security of employees. Are there any plans to ensure staff safety ie: cameras ? Thank you
There seems to be an insinuation behind this survey that maintaining the current system of government liquor stores automatically means we will have less funds to "invest" in other critical social programs in our province. I believe we have done BOTH in the past and that we can certainly continue to do both in the future. There is money to be made from the sale of liquor. Those profits should go into government coffers to benefit all Saskatchewan citizens and especially those who most need help.
Product selection is most important to me. SLGA stores have increased their product line but still behind other jurisdictions. Less regulation for emerging Sask brewers would be nice, such as growler fills, or ability to bypass warehousing restrictions.
The Governement needs to maintain the same or stronger controls on facilities or sales persons that promote and sell alcohol to minors. Inspection is too minimal and the regulations to full of interpretation. Inspectors should be more equipt and prepared to work with owners but also to come down on them for being in violation
If having the government run retail sales were such a good idea, why don't we abolish all stores and we can have one giant State Mart where all our retail experiences can be decided by the government? The Soviet Union failed for a reason, not least of which was a closed economic system that could not provide for the needs and desires of its people. The creation of State Marts and the entire abolition of the private marketplace is obviously a silly idea, and it is intended to be so becuase it throws into starker relief the absurdity of having the government control the retail environment for liquor. Ultimately, the profits and money derived from public liquor sales are not free money for the government that falls out of the sky, but rather, is money that comes from the pocket of consumers. This is simply a system that builds a tax, onto a tax, onto a tax. Please abolish it.
The government should be building & maintaining schools, hospitals, roads & bridges, not liquor stores.
I would ultimately like to see an American system with respect to alcohol sales in which it is fully private and there are few restrictions on where and when alcohol is sold. I don't think it is necessary to sell alcohol in stand alone stores. I would also like to see a more competitive price structure.
As a restaurant owner, I would strongly suggest that whoever is doing the wine purchasing lose their job. Our selection is disgusting and clearly being purchased by an someone who has little to no knowledge of wine. As well, the delisting of wines come with no warning, the employees within the government stores know less than the purchaser and overall this makes for a very frustrating experience as an owner who is trying to build a clientèle and an excellent and award winning wine list. It also increases the temptation to purchase liquor from outside of the province as both Alberta and Montana have excellent selection. The bonus with private stores is that our reps are able to service us better, the selection increases and we are able to offer a better variety to meet our own personal needs instead of being told this is what is available. This applies to hard alcohol and beer as well, but on a smaller scale.
I wasn't aware of any groundswell to privatize Saskatchewan liquor stores. I suspect the musings of Brad Wall are the result of ideology and pressure from the Saskatchewan Party's friends in the Chamber of Commerce and the CFIB. The control and profits of the SLGA are much better left in the hands of all the people of Saskatchewan rather than a few entrepreneurs. As the old saying goes, "if it aint broke, don't fix it".
It is better for the government to make 100% profit from Crown stores than only the sales tax of private stores. That way we have more money to spend on other things.
I support gov. liquor stores. The staff make a decent wage and have a plan for retirement. I can't help but feel in a private setting the staff might as well work at walmart because that is how their employer will compensate them...and forget about saving for the future. It's hard enough to survive at min. Wage or slightly more, saving is unlikely. I also disagree with the pricing model as a deterrent to abuse. I think we should have a penalty where you have no other option but to forfeit your time and do some community service...if you don't want to be seen on the chain gang picking needles on the

riverbank then don't provide liquor to a minor! Etc. And for what it is worth today's youth, or anyone, but youth are choosing and have easier and cheaper access to drugs than they do to alcohol. Good luck to you.
I think the present management should explore ways to increase service under government ownership or get new people that will.
These stores pay their way & bring millions into the provincial government. Way change something that isn't broken. Cabinet needs to watch the following documentaries : "Inside Job" & "Inequality for All" . Don't reduce the operatios of the liquor stores in any way.
a few of my friends work at a liquor store and one of my friends own's it
Having shopped at both the Sobeys and Co-op liquor stores I honestly believe that retail companies are better suited to manage the retail side of liquor sales. I know that people are concerned about jobs and such but my under standing from people I know who work retail is that grocery stores actually pay quite well. I definitely prefer standalone stores to availability in grocery stores (as a parent I do not bring my small children into liquor stores and would prefer to not have them exposed to alcohol in stores until they are if legal age).
The last thing we need to see is more of the second rate vendors that are already in many small towns.
For me, the highest priority is increasing consumer selection/options by decreasing/removing limitations on products allowed to be sold in the province.
Since when does a government poll the public to do it's job?I know of nobody who has lobbied the Government to throw millions of dollars in profit to the private sector outside of the private sector itself. To throw the profits and controls of liquor sales to some private individuals is irresponsible and certainly not good Government practice. MR. WALL STOP PATRONIZING YOUR FRIENDS. My daughter lives in Alberta and shortly after Alberta privatized it's liquor stores someone somehow accessed her credit card and ordered over $7.000.00 of liquor from a PRIVATE liquor store. Fortunately the Bank covered this and then tried to recover their money from the liquor store!!
I think that the Gov't run stores and current offsale outlets are meeting the needs of the people of Sask. I think that the Gov't run stores can easily bring in more variety. I only consure beer, so I am finding more selection so I am content.
Leave as is. If we get rid of Gov Stores that same revenue will decline as it did in the other provinces. The gov officials need to read the economic reports written before being so hasteful. Quit lying to the public. The revenue put to the provincial coffers comes from the sales of liquor. This all goes to education, roads, health care. This province is getting very expensive with utilities and taxes. Where do you think the money will come from? Make the private guy wealthy and the common person poorer?? Think twice before being so blind. Liquor is a choice not a neccesity of life. Keep the money in the province!! just was in Alberta prices were not less did not buy there. Pay more at the till not the shelf price!
I like the Alberta model in terms of price, selection, hours, accessibility, etc. Keep the wholesale and fund addictions/abuse related programs as well as health, infrastructure and other priorities.
I am quite pleased with the service I get at gov't stores. I see no need for more privatization or even the private full service stores in major urban locations. If a government can't focus on other priorities while running retail liquor stores, then perhaps we need a better government.
KEEP as is, it is working quite fine for years and the revenue generated if privatized will fall
Do not follow Alberta's example it is a hodge podge of stores that have different prices from store to store for same product.Alberta had a loss in revenue to help privateers survive.The feedback from Albertans who stop in our local Gov. store is generally quite positive.A few oil workers are complainers about price so are obviously generic drinkers as quality liquor is generally as cheap or better priced than Alberta.Do not understand why are Gov. store is hamstringed by not having access to same liquor available as private stores?Also our local Gov. store has not been able to get extra opening hours to accommodate patrons not able to access store after six pm I thought Saskatchewan was supposed to be open for business heaven forbid we might have to hire extra people that pay taxes and support our local community.
As a European immigrant(1980) I could not/cannot understand that governments have to be in the liquor business. In Holland, I used to buy beer from the grocery store and there was less alcohol abuse than here. Thanks
I'm not sure why we have such a nanny-state mentality when it comes to alcohol in this province. Tax it moderately and let any business sell it at any time of day to any person of legal age.

In case it is not clear from my answers to the questions in the survey, I do not think the government should be running any liquor stores - they should all be privatized much like Alberta. There are much more important ways for government money to be spent than paying ridiculously high wages to unskilled and uneducated people working in Sask Liquor Stores. It is time to give the liquor retailing opportunities to private corporations and individuals who know how to run a profitable business.
The main thing I disdain about the GOVT liquor stores is the way over market wages paid to employees and management of these stores. Also, the ridiculous salaries paid to administer the entire SLGA.
The amount of provincial revenue loss must be fairly large already as our family and a lot that I know will buy most of their liquor in Alberta stores. So the question about maintaining revenue was a difficult one to answer.
As a rural resident in the province I have to live with the monopoly of an off sale outlet who can provide the service and product they choose without the fear of competition.
I think the government should keep the status quo with the liquor distribution and sales. I am also disappointed with the current government and its appetite for privatization of the liquor stores and my family nor I will be voting for them in the next election.
My experience is once private retailing is implemented, there will be more jobs at less cost & Government revenue will probably increase.
I think that it should remain as it is. The government is currently losing revenue in the gas and oil sector, so liquor is helping minimize that loss. If more store are needed, they could most certainly be private or franchise. Off-sale I don't think is required. People have enough options to purchase by 10pm.
I disagree with government involvement in wholesale, as well as retail liquor sales. The only role should be to set the tax rate.
I believe that existing gov't owned stores should remain in place. New stores due to expanding population can be private. I do not believe that privatization will lead to lower pricing at all. There is a measure of respect for the industry because of the government ownership.
I believe liquor stores should be privately owned and staffed by non-government employees.
I am for liquor retailing in Saskatchewan, however, the loss of jobs is my biggest concern, and the impact of it might have on our young people in accessing liquor more easily. eg: (alcoholism, and domestic violence, DWI, death in accidents related to alcohol).I don't think liquor should be sold in grocery stores, as it may have an impact on sales from other distributors....keep food in grocery stores, and liquor in liquor outlets.
I live in Medicine Hat part time so I am very familiar with the Alberta system. I have watched it evolve in to a system of retail stores with very good selection and customer service. The pricing is also competitve with sales and special pricing that we sure don't see here. I don't see any loss of revenue for the Government as the cost of running the stores seems to be similar to the discount to private retailers. I see a benefit to smaller communities from the possible retail revenue as well.
After answering the survey, I feel it's important to further explain myself. I mainly drink craft beers and i find private retailers offer greater variety and selection than government stores. I was, and am, very pleased to see several private liquor stores opening in Saskatoon. I also travel a lot and purchase beer in many different Canadian cities. I can tell you that I cringe at the price we pay for alcohol in Saskatchewan, which is why I'm almost completely against government owned/controlled liquor. I'd support moving to a complete privatization of liquor in this province to curb retail costs, create competition, and offer greater value and selection.
As an immigrant from New Zealand. I see no benefit to your current system. It clearly does not prevent or limit alcoholism. Opening up the sale of liquor/beer/wine would be a positive move. I was used to being able to buy beer/wine at a grocery store and see no reason why that should not continue. I do support minimum prices on products to ensure that grocery stores do not use alcoholic products as a loss leader to get people in the store.
The distribution has to be streamlined. The fact that all product has to go through the single logistics point in Regina, means products produced to be consumed as fresh as possible are stored and transported unrefrigerated (A huge issue as far as 'skunking' beer.) - Allowing pubs to provide growler fills at a reasonable price, for off-site consumption of course.
Prices are way too high and the product coming in needs to be more broad.
I support the Managed Transition to Fully Private Retail
alberta has private liquor outlets and it is a mess.....and more expensive
I have friends who experience privatizing liquor sales in Washington State. The result was that small businesses lost out to

Walmart & Costco, prices went up not down and selection went down. They see the Washington consumer and taxpayer as the big losers in this change.
The profits from liquor sales can help fund road maintenance, and help the SK government fund social assistance and other needed services. I see no reason to give away the profits that come from liquor sales.
No
Current off-sale outlets should have priority status in considering location of private stores.
I have talked to young people in Alberta working at these small liquor stores. They usually have a 2nd job to be able to afford to live as the pay is so low at the liquor stores. I believe we should keep the 750 gov't employees working instead of sending them off to lower paying jobs. They are tax payers contributing to our ecconomy. Lower paying jobs mean they will pay less taxes and that would be a step backwards for the province.
Keep gov,t run liquor stores. The cost of alcohol addictions in this province is too high. Look at the cost of alcohol related auto accidents, deaths, health care (physical & mental), loss of family loss of jobs due to addictions! The bigger picture is not even In this equation. Why look at it that you have to sell MORE MORE MORE! The social impact of alcohol is too high in this province to make booze more accesable on every street corner. Anyone who is for private liquor outlets, has to be OK with a liquor store opening in their neighbourhood, or across the street from their home. Once they experience a weekend with the liquor store as their neighbour they will change their mind. Drunks & noise all day & night long!People yelling & urinating in their bushes, their kids trying to make it safely in their door at night> Come on really?
The sale of alcohol in grocery stores and such in other countries has little effect on problems associated with alcohol.
I would like to see more locations, more choice, and a real sale once in a while.
Reduce prices. Improve selection - particularly Scotch's. Foster competitive, private stores and let consumers decide fate of stores.
Do not privatize.
I am in favour of maintaining the status quo. When mixed system of public and private liquor retailing is in place and the private sector would continue to retail alcohol through a small number of private stores.
The way the government is handling liquor now is very appropriate. I live in a town where a SLGA retail location was recently closed. The liquor franchise that took over is more than a suitable replacement. The selection is the same or better than the old SLGA store, and anything special order I want they will bring in, unlike the old SLGA store. The franchise system makes sense for smaller rural communities like mine. I would like to see continued closures of SLGA retail stores that do not meet targets and the replacement of those with liquor franchises
I think it is about time we privatize. Living out of province for many years and then returning I think it is ridiculous the prices we pay for liquor, the store hours of operations, the locations of the government liquor stores and above all the lack of knowledge the employees have about their product.I have heard people asking workers if they can recommend a wine and the response being "How should I know, I don't drink wine!", Or, no I don't know. I don't expect all workers to drink but I think if more stores were privatize this would change this "monopoly" that I feel is a joke!
Currently, there is not enough choice, particularly when it comes to beers and vodka selections. Private ownership should result in more variety of product, in addition to other advantages.
As the popularity of craft beer, wine and spirits grows substantially, The province suffers form a cultural deficit in its inability to provide a large selection of artisan products at a reasonable price.
I like the options that the private stores in Alberta have to offer. Not the chains like Liquor Depot, Costco, Loblaws, etc but places like Sherbrooke Liquor store (850 kinds of beer), deVine Wines and Spirits or Chateau Louis (Scotch) in Edmonton. More selection (specialties) at competitive prices are an important part of making this work.
Government would increase its profits and decrease its costs by eliminating its own stores. Allow Hotels etc. to retail,consumers would be serviced better both personal and open hours.
Keep government wholesale but increase amount of choices of different products. Remember gov't workers don't ensure age laws are followed, use existing laws about ID requirements. Don't let the unions decide how OUR province is run
Every jurisdiction I have visited with private liquor stores have been a dichotomy of confusion and a disaster for the consumer. Costs are not reduced and well paying jobs are lost.
No more private store, I would like to see more services from the SLGA. Ontario is a good example of government run specialty

stores. Why would I want to spend money at a private store when I can spend my money at a store I own (SLGA).
Get rid of all government liquor stores and go to private grocery and retail stores for liquor sales including gas stations etc.
The government should maintain the public model of liquor sales without the shift to private stores. We receive a large amount of revenue from liquor stores, and have a degree of control over alcohol (as a social ill) that we would not have with a private model. The revenue will need to come from somewhere else, or services provided by the revenue will be decreased. Stop privatizing things for the sake of privatizing things, and focus on some of the actual issues in this province.
promote private stores. get government out of liquor business. Govn't should regulate and oversee, not try to run businesses.
While there is evidence to suggest that raising liquor prices will deter people from buying alcohol, it will not stop abusers from getting their fix. Stop using a scapegoat to raise prices. Competition drives commodity, and SK lacks competition. Give us choice, don't chokehold prices and selection. It's embarsssing when it costs less to go to AB to buy a product made here. Also, liquor has nothing to do with social reform, so why is it helping subsidize it? That is what taxes are for.
I very much like that money from liquor and gamimg is funnelled back into our province, I have teens and def. do not want liquor available in grocery stores and widely available. It looks seedy, and drunks will be everywhere. Not safe.
get out of the business, we pay enough taxes in this province, we don't need extra tax on liquor too. I don't need to vista a store and have the people serving me making $30/hr, this is absurd.
A full privatization system should be used as a means to facilitate competition among retailers to create great customer experiences and act as an incentive to innovate current retail practices.
This survey is a typical government why not just get to the point public or private? why would this be tied into health care it makes the whole issue cloudy.
Maintain the current number of government stores but allow Sobeys to operate stores. NO small private stores!
I visited both the co-op liquor store in Saskatoon as well as the new Sobeys liquor store. The staff are not even close to as educated and knowledgable on the liquor (wines etc) as the staff at the SLGA locations in Saskatoon. I fully support the government run liquor stores and will continue to purchase my liquor from SLGA as well as voice my opinion to my friends and family. Better service is ALWAYS more important than the price of the product!
More liquor profit will be lost to the people of Sask. if it goes private.
get government out of running businesses. privatize liquor sales, sooner the better.
Make the prices of Government run Liquor Stores slightly more competitive with private ones. A suggestion would be to have more substantial sale prices than just a dollar or 2 off the original price. To be perfectly honest, my priority would be to the staff of current Liquor Stores. The decreased wages and benefits of privately run stores is bad for the economy. I would rather see many prosper rather than just one individual owner(s) of a store, even if that means I have to pay slightly more for alcohol.
I prefer I liquor retail system the allow for change but that will not disrupt our current system. A system which has proven to be a mix of profitable private and public stores!
What we have seems to be working. In terms of the government being able to "reinvest in other areas" if they don't run liquor stores, it would seem to me that, given that liquor stores are profitable ventures, divesting from them would result in a net loss to revenues.
I think more bear options, especially with so many mirco bereweries out there. Steam Whistle has been around for awhile yet have to go to Alberta to get it.
Go totally private.
Money gets put back into government funding via taxation, regardless if it is a government agency. Allowing for privatized stores can increased jobs, as well as small business revenue. Liquor regulations are ridiculous, especially with the trend of micro-breweries; a brewer in Saskatoon must ship product to Regina and then back again for distribution, which makes no sense, adding to cost and emissions related to transport. Saskatchewan is behind the times in many facets, and liquor regulations in one of them: it is antiquated and needs revision.
The Sobeys and %-op stores are so much easier to navigate, are cleaner, and the staff are MUCH friendlier. I don't care whether private or government run. Only care about the shopping experience. If the government store by my house were like the private ones I wouldn't have switched.
This is a bad joke, left over from authoritarian govt's past. Gov't involvement in liquor has had no positive impact on alcoholism that I can find, or from what I see in downtown Regina daily.
There is no reason for government operating liquor sales outlets. Establish the laws and enforce them. Unionized employees'

concern that only the "protect" society is rubbish and makes a statement about the intelligence of their leaders. Show leadership, not follow ship. The "old" sk would not change, the "new" sk should!
I have lived and worked in Alberta. There are liquor stores everywhere and the only liquor that is less expensive are the brands that the stores use as lost leaders. Most people working in the private stores make minimum wage and work part-time...and contribute very little to the tax base. The Alberta Government is netting far less than it did when the stores were owned and operated by the government. Privatization is a loser for the taxpayers. Period.
When we have a social risk like alcohol I think it's important to make sure that profits can go towards managing those risks through governmental incentives and programs. Alcohol consumption is a part of our social culture and when citizens partake of this intoxicant responsibly there is no need for any governmental interference, but having the ability to fund programs to help those who lack the ability to manage this substance is important. Any profits that go into the public good through programs or infrastructure development is a good thing.
keep it as it is. dont fix it it aint broke
leave it to the private sector, when a owner has a personal intrest the busness usally does better.
Keep the revenue coming directly to subsidizing the province.
The idea behind over-taxing liquor to prevent "over-usage" isn't fooling anyone. It's a cash grab pure and simple. Stop trying to disguise this as a social benefit. Reduce the liquor tax so that the price more accurately reflects the real cost of the product.
The primary thing I would absolutely like to see changed about the current retail situation is the availability of product. There are *many* products I would like to purchase but am unable to unless I am willing to buy them in high quantities. Even if I were considering that option, I'd want to at least sample the product first. My only other priority is availability - I see no reason we shouldn't be selling beer, wine and liquor in grocery stores and elsewhere. Some quick research shows our rate of alcoholism in Canada is on par with most Western countries, including the US where a beer aisle at the grocery store is pretty much expected. This leads me to believe restricting access isn't really having any significant effect on the problem. And, frankly, the 8 people per 100,000 dying from cirrhosis every year in Canada just don't provide sufficient justification for me for the additional inconvenience I have to deal with. I'm certain we could save more lives that that with a small increase in health funding, ramping up enforcement of drinking and driving laws even more, or any of a number of other things if *something* has to be done. Other than that, as much as I would like to be able to pay less for liquor (much like, well, everything I buy), I'd rather see the 167% markup on liquor and 125% markup on wine maintained before I saw any cuts in social programs.
The only regulation change that I feel would benefit residents is being able to conveniently purchase beer and wine at grocery and convenience stores.
Keep the Government Liquor Stores Government run.
I am very opposed to private sector retailing such as Sobey's. Any and all profits received from the sale of alcohol needs to be invested in the health and well being of SK residents not in the pockets of large corporations. With all the health and social costs related to alcohol consumption, why would we be concerned about making it more accessible?? Increase the price the gov't charges private retailers by an additional 10 percent which would go directly into supporting health care.
keep the current system
The government doesn't build liquor stores, it leases them so some of the comments made by government ministers are misleading.
The 2 statements in the survey about other government priorities are misleading and confusing. I assume government run liquor stores make a profit.....if privatized, then the profits are not available for public works. These biased questions slant and therefore weaken your rezults.
Have moved from alberta, liquor is horribly expensive here. It's time for a change, and we also need a much better larger selection of brands/types etc
All liquor sales in Saskatchewan should be private. We do not need a board to dictate which products can and cannot be sold. Every step taken away from Saskatchewan's dismal and abhorrent socialist/communist past is a great step for mankind.
Some of these questions are poorly written in Political Propogandese. I don't have a problem with the govt getting similar revenue from any system, but if they aren't paying employees etc, then alcohol prices should reflect that cut or else this just becomes a govt cash cow for no extra work.

If the govt is going to cut those jobs, it should cut those costs out of the pricing. Period.
Money from gov't stores helps to build hospitals and schools!
Why are we paying high wages and funding pensions for store clerks? Privatize.
Excesive tax over alcohol
The staff are very knowledgable when you shop at a govt liquor store. They are trained really well. The stores are clean and very well looked after and a large variety to choose from. Private stores an alberta are small and less variety to choose from. If we go private all the money made is to business owners and not put back into Saskatchewan. If we go private we will be like all other provinces and be broke. Government stores don't sell to minors....private stores wont care. I really believe if we go private we will in a few years be struggling as a province and then be paying higher taxes and possibly paying for health care. I really believe going private is a bad idea....
We don't need that convenient access that it needs to be in grocery stores. This also poses risks for families and kids and provides more accessibility that can cause other risks and issues. Private and off sale stores often over-charge and are a mess with limited selection and unprofessional atmosphere.
Sale of alcohol pays for gov't services like medicare. Leave the liquors stores alone.
1. Legalize marijuana products in Saskatchewan. 2. Sell them in government operated liquor stores. 3. Profit. It's just a good idea. I've never even used marijuana in my life.
The province enjoys revenue from resources which are non-renewable. Investing in publicly owned enterprises like utilities, liquor, insurance etc. should be part of a strategy to leave revenue streams that provide future generations with cash flows into social coffers. Selling off or severely constraining these revenue sources without replacing them with equivalent streams is like stealing from future generations. We have a choice between leaving a legacy that can help finance future generations or leaving behind a legacy of plunder, and political spin as justification. Someone has to stand up for future generations here. The real question here is "Are you going to hold your head up high because you were part of that, or hang your head in shame because you weren't?"
Please keep stores government run, I do not want to see a repeat of how Alberta.
Why the gov't wants to give up a cash cow is beyond me. Our province needs extra $ for health care, education & roads & profits from liquor sales should be directed there.
I don't want my property and family to be endangered if retailers are permitted to sell cheaper alcohol during extended hours.
Keep up with the privatization: less government run stores lowers the cost to taxpayers by putting the burden of construction and upkeep on store owners.
Why do we continue to sell off profitable industries to out-of-province vendors? The survey is quite biased in favour of privatization. Asking why if we should invest in other programs is absurd. Alchohol makes money, it pays for social programs.
I would love to be able to buy alcohol at the grocery store.
Consider the experience of privatization in Alberta. It resulted in higher prices for the consumer, a loss of tax revenue for the government and a few rich people became somewhat richer.
Keep the current gov't owned/run liquor stores and get more variety.
support Alberta model of liquor retailing of options given.Think it would create jobs by not limting the number of stores
i have historically voted conservative but selling off something that creates revenue without thinking of future generations is careless. the owners of the private stores will not reinvest in the community. sask party is starting to chase away their own supporters which usually means a change in gvnt is approaching for good or ill.
My personal oberservation when in a Sask liquor store is that they are very well run/managed. Employees are very responsible. A professional operation.
Unfortunately the current politics is focusing on a particular philosophy. The disdain shown for public/government run systems is setting long term divides in our great province.
The selection of craft beer/mircrbrews available in Saskatchewan is an absolute joke. When I first moved here and went to an SLGA I could not believe how pathetic the beer selection was.

Private stores ie CO-OP have a better selection and price than Govt stores. For wine , selection is important, also when we asked for a certain product ie Ginger Wine , Co-op brought it in for us!
The current government model overly limits product selection. I want to see a greater variety of types of liquor and of brands. The current model of product listing is overly restrictive and I for one want to try new things, not just the same old, same old.
leave things alone
I am a consumer, I don't give a if some person does or doesn't get a good wage for helping me. I care if I get the help I want, I tip well when I do and not at all when I don't. The current system regulates mediocre to a precise level and would consider exceeding it a mistake, outside normal parameters. Last time I received service in a gov't liquor store that I rewarded with a tip was... never... Tips paid out since my first trip, in excess of $2000... all to franchise employees, all effort based, you do the math. If I don't appreciate their lackluster excuse for work ethic now, when I have little choice, why would I care if they still have a job at some store I prefer not to frequent in the future, if I could have a chance to shop somewhere else where the staff actually cared about the customer experience? Not saying all SLGA staff are btw, but either SLGA training, or lack of other training makes them seem that way within the industry
Privatization of liquor stories appears to be an example of the triumph of ideology over common sense.
New liquor stores are excellent because of large beer selections. Non-standard beers are very popular with me and my colleagues
THE CURRENT SYSTEM HAS SERVED ME WELL FOR OVER 45 YEARS' NO COMPLAINTS. PLEASE KEEP AND EXPAND GOVT. STORES
Every morning that I listen to 650 Talk Radio and hear Gormley natter on and on about this issue I have the desire to hurl in the manner of a teen who has consumed one too many tequila shooters. Could it be that certain individuals are champing at the bit to diversify their holdings? When I went to the Sobey's in Stonebridge I saw absolutely nothing that would suggest that this is a vastly superior marketing model to offer this drug to the populace. The "sales" such as they were amounted to loonies or toonies on a product. The vast variety of product was undewhelming. In a nutshell things are fine just the way they are ...
Why are issues like this presented to the public for consideration, but changes to Health or Education are done behind closed doors with no meaningful public input?
Why are you so anxious to give up close to 3M in annual revenue? With the current decline in the price of oil I suggest shelving the idea of privatizing liquor stores in favor the profit the Government stores generate.
why would not all retailers of alcohol recieve the same pricing from the government wholesaler? limit floor size off "offsale bars" but let them have same pricing. the consumer then can deal with store or stores that meet their needs
The Saskatchewan Governments meddling in private business with direct competition although historical is unacceptable. Privatize liquor, phone and other companies so the market can dictate price and employment. This isnt Russia just a close 2nd
If you are going to maintain the 3 main priorities where the government is the sole wholesaler and supplier, the type of system really doesnt matter. You get the same cut and its exorbitant and old fashioned.It all boils down to wether you support high paying , secure govt union jobs that take no skill, or think they should work for McDOnalds wages too. The high cost of alcohol doesnt save people from becoming alcoholics. Thats a wasted argument.
Do NOT continuing privatization
Govt liquor stores are well run provide good product selection and offer good jobs for their employees. We do not need the disgraceful way Alberta runs it's liquor business. We are leaders in SK keep it the way the current model is no more private stores only franchises.
Please take the Alberta privatization experience and improve on it. If the gov't maintain the wholesale portion of the business it will maintain its profits. Get out of the retail side of the market. The private sector will do a much better job.
The government will see reduced revenues with private liquor stores. Considering how much it likes to tax liqour for its revenues - its should accept the good wages SLGA workers enjoy - rather than eliminate those jobs at the expense of govt revenue.
In her book "Drink", Ann Dowsett Johnston makes a convincing case for better alcohol policies and stricter regulation. I appreciate that the government is collecting public feedback, but regardless of popular opinion, PLEASE also review and consider the evidence on alcohol price, availability, etc., and its impact on public health.

The statement of keeping high prices to stem abuse is bollocks. Rest of the world seems to be fine with cheaper prices. Canada seems to mean "over charge" !!
Sk needs to grow up and get with the times and become a MODERN day province. Less unions the better.
So long as the liquor stores are profitable the Government should focus on expansion and growing profits or customer experience. I have no problem having the Government liquor stores and private off sale opperations.
The gov't should not allow any private liquor stores in Saskatchewan so they can line their pockets and not monitor. It always sound great at the beginning until they get established then watch out consumer for prices to jump higher with no control of Cost. Would be more in there pockets less money to assist the public ie healthcare, highway and more. The fat cats get richer of consumers backs.
I think things should stay the same
Retail liquor privately in Saskatchewan.
I agree with high taxation of items like alcohol (and cigarettes for example) if the revenues are going back into social programs (or the heathcare system which then has to deal with the after-effects of using either of those products). But I don't think that high prices and lowered availability either by less stores or less hours of operation is a real deterrent for people looking to find alcohol. If people want to drink then they will find a way and the money to drink. So by some level of privatization, I don't think it will increase the amount that people drink. I think it would just be more convenient in terms of locations, hours open, and hopefully would provide some price competition for the off-sales locations who charge astronomical prices.
Privatization of Sask Power and Sask Tel would bring in a higher short term revenue stream.....probably the next consideration.....
I believe that this process is a waste of time and public money. The government ought to focus on more pertinent alcohol related problems such as drinking and driving, the availability of detox and rehab facilities rather than changing the retail system.
I coming from Prince Albert SK a town influenced heavily by alcoholism would like to see the government move to an Alberta style fully private system and put the tax revenue towards addictions management and make these more accessible to the public with that said I would also like legislation to keep a minimum alcohol price some where in the middle of where they are and too low keeping the alcohol. although as someone who has witnessed alcoholism first hand an alcoholic will get there Jones no matter the cost even to the breaking point. so in summary i believe the prices can be lowered but i would like to see most if not all the taxation of the private liquor stores to go to helping people effected by alcoholism. thank you for your time
Liquor is too expensive in Saskatchewan. Markups are too high. Compare with Europe, Germany for example, much more affordable for consumers. I don't believe your over-consumption vs. price argument either. There are no more drunks there than here. This is an excuse to justify your ridiculously high markups. $14 on an $8 product, give me a break, a 100% mark-up on anything should be more than plenty. I vote for either an expanded private, or fully private retailing system which will lower prices and expand selection for the consumer. Also lower the markups to something more reasonable.
Government should not be in the retail business, particularly regarding liquor sales. This is why we have private businesses. The Government should govern and set policies and guidelines, not operate retail stores.
I feel that the government should get out of the sale of alcohol completely. It is a joke how expensive alcohol is here, which is part is due to the huge mark-ups that are put on alcohol to pay the employees who work at the LB stores. We get with taxes already in this province and we get a double whammy when we go to pick up a 6 pack on the way home from work on Friday.
I really like the system that Alberta uses. it is worth a trip out of province to AB for a large purchase. if you change over sales will go up here due to more people staying in province.
Where will the government recover the money they get from government owned liquor stores. Is it Sask party or give Sask away party
Too much tax in alcohol sales.
The selection of beer and wine available in this province is a joke. The SLGA store by my house brings in some special "Craft" beer during the summer months and the stuff flies off the shelf. I don't know why these Craft beers (and others like them) can't be brought in permanently?!?!? Sobey's is able keep them stocked?!?
I strongly favour the option of strengthening the role of public liquor stores...including making their hours and locations more customer-friendly. The argument put forward that investing in improving public liquor sales takes away from investing in other priorities is a false argument. It will generate more revenues for government that can go towards public services.
I think the selection of alcohol in Saskatchewan is very poor. I look forward to trips out of province so that I can try more types of

drinks such as ciders. I think the government regulations on alcohol in Saskatchewan are severely behind the rest of the country, and need to be fixed.
We don't need govt liquor stores any more than we need govt shoe stores.
I would prefer an Alberta style private system with easier access to a variety of products. As a fan of craft beer it is very difficult to try a variety here. Also the pricing system and markup for higher alcohol beers while perhaps well intentioned is poorly implemented as it doesn't differentiate between a boutique craft beer with a higher base price as opposed to a cheap beer with high alcohol content as a selling feature.
Stop misleading people that service will be better and call it what it is, union busting.
I like Manitoba and Ontario idea of expanding into grocery stores with small slga stores inside. I have always received excellent service from government stores.
I see no problem with private liquor stores as long as gov. revenue for each sale remains constant.
allow private stores to compete with AB prices and keep that revenue in SK
I prefer freedom allowing any store to sell alcohol. It can be the Alberta style but having a separate building is not needed,similar to that of the grocery chains in the US. Prices will eventually be lowered for the consumers. Continue to tax the purchases at a reasonable rate.
I believe that we are at a good point for availability of liquor in the province. I also believe that the government should be the primary regulator and distributor of this product. This would ensure that the government bears the responsibility for all of the effects of the sale and distribution of liquor.
Privatization should be avoided at all costs.
The survey appears bias towards the current governments agenda and I feel the questions will not provide a representative result of those who take the survey.
none
There is no need to privatize. Saskatchewan loses revenue that the government can use to IMPROVE THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN. Strong economy, strong leadership, strong Saskatchewan is the Sask Party's phrase, by privatizing, you not only take money away from the province, but people lose well paying jobs that help them support their families and themselves... And don't we want that in Saskatchewan?
Suggest the gov,t retain policies for the oversight of liquor sales, etc., but extricate itself - over time - from the brick and mortar liquor sales...
DO NOT PRIVATIZE!!!!
What is a matter with you people? Is it big wigs trying to justifie there jobs? And how stupid are they for even thinking about something so stupid. I hear a lot how they want to dispose of essential revenue but nothing on how they replace it. Where is the benefit? Do these people pushing this care about Saskatewan at all? Why are we paying these people to reck our province do they not work for us?
I know that the Sask Party doesn't believe in having a government and a province with money, but I do, and as such, I say do not privatize.
I feel strongly it should be left as it is. We are Saskatchewan -- We don't want to be like Alberta... it is time this government realizes that!
I am very disappointed that the government makes the claim that operating liquor stores reduces its ability to build roads, schools, etc. Liquor stores make money and INCREASE the government's ability to build roads, schools, etc. with the profits. Although I buy alcohol, I recognize alcohol abuse is a massive problem in society and government run stores at least put some restraint on this problem by rigidly complying with regulations. The move to privatize alcohol sales is a move to take alcohol revenue away from government and transfer it instead to a handful of wealthy alcohol store owners. The Saskatchewan Party government seems obsessed with closing any government service that is profitable so that a few wealthy elite get the money instead. I am very disappointed that liquor sales are being targeted next.
I would like to see liquor in grrocery stores, but not seprate free standing buildings
1. 18 States in the U.S. are control or monopoly jurisdictions. 2. Prices of spirits rose in price in Alberta after privatization and product selection was poorer.

3. The old 80/20 rule prevails with liquor. 80% of all spirits sold are 20% of the most popular brands. 4. The largest singular purchaser of wine/spirits in the world is Ontario and they have the largest and best selection (not necessarily the best prices). 5. I spent 20 years in mid management of one of the largest Distilling Corp. in the world, so the above are my experienced observations. 6. I believe in free enterprise and would consider myself a Conservative with a social conscience. 7. The huge profits that Govt. make in wine/spirits warrant their investment. 8. The lessening of bricks and mortar to Govt. can be a good thing providing who the Govt. allows to resell the product that will maintain a wide, varied product selection. 7. The chosen retailers by Sask. if it chooses to go in that direction should NOT allow these various retailers to consolidate eventually to 1 or 2 only companies. ie; Alberta.
Consult with public health professionals about retail pricing sales and the impact on drinking impacts and behavious- learn from other provinces. Having just moved to this province I am disgusted by the drinking behaviours here- especially while driving which seems to be very common in rural areas. I don't believe in prohibition- but I do believe in healthy public policies that protect the common good.
The fewer people represented by SGEU, the better. When liquor store employees are chirping about needing more money for doing less work, let them strike so SLGA can close all of the government-owned stores and license a whole bunch of private retailers. The government has no business in retail enterprises. I look forward to when we have the same discussion about SGI.
I currently have to pack the car with requests for cheaper liquor every time I visit family in Alberta. A change to a system like Alberta would be great!
keep the revenues going back to the people and programs in saskatchewan.....not to one business to gain the revenues
It would be nice to purchase cold beer at a corner store. Not liquor or wine though, just beer.
this is not that big a deal, just don't build anymore government infrastructures for services that the private sector can do for less
the way the sask. govn't applies taxs to liquor sales needs to change more than the way the retail sector needs to change. the price will not change unless the govn't looks at itself
not a fan of freestanding private liqour stores, ok in grocery stores or freestanding govenment stores
Keep the status quo. Instead of spending money on the whole liquor option discussion, save it for other important issues such as long tem care and the health system. Thiis push to privatize is an idealogical exercise and not important in the overall issues at play in the province.
I am more concerned about workers having salaries that can support a decent living than buying cheaper alcohol. I also do not want private liquor stores that will lose money if they do not sell to minors, thereby deterring owners from asking for age identification.
I am a lifelong non-drinker, so am not very supportive of alcohol. I don't need my government involved in sales of alcohol, but private stores should still be required to send revenue to the government. Also, cheap alcohol would not be a good thing for our younger population.
The government should concentrate their efforts on the taxation of liquior. Not the retailing or distibution. Private companies will provide as many jobs and as good or better product selection than the government. There is know reason why a consumer should have to purchase beer or wine seperate from the groceries they purchase. Lets get out of the the dark ages!!!
I would like to see more regulation on alcohol sales. I'd like to keep more public and less private so that the liquor profits go back to put community!
Either go all the way and allow the sale of liquor in all grocery stores, (not separate buildings), or keep the status quo.
I believe the government should focus on more important issues such as health, education, roads, jobs, and leave retailing to retailing experts.
profits of liquor retail sales should remain in the public realm , allowing it to offset the social costs created by alcohol abuse i.e. medical costs and cost of treatment centres
Its silly that a retail clerk gets paid over $20 an hour and we pay health care professionals or daycare workers less then that. These people are more important and have an education that we should invest in more. $20 an hour to stock shelves

really???? Care for my child and make less.
Less government involvement is a good thing. We need to shed the NDP attitude of the government controlling everything.
The profits of sales now support middle class jobs and any profits then go back to the people of Sask.. With private ownership the jobs pay less , have less benefits to employees and the profits go to private individuals and or corporations not necessarily in the province.
Been to both sobey's and coop's liquor stores. Beautiful stores especially the coop one.
I would like to see the Co-op in Estevan have an outlet and/or have beer & wine available in grocery store.
The government should maintain their revenue through taxation, but totally exit the operation of the industry. There is huge tax leakage to Alberta.
I am perfectly satisfied with the status quo.
leave thingd the way they are !
I really like the idea of purchasing liquor in the grocery store. Convenience is a big plus. A large amount of the price for liquor is a result of high wages in Gov't run stores due to unions. Grocery clerks can sell liquor as well in a lower wage structure.
I think you should keep the government based stores. Update and allow the government stores to be competitive and modern. The province benefits from the income and the customer benefits from an increased selection in a more modern environment. The government jobs are important as well. The current employees need the jobs to support their families and to be an active part of their communities.
There are plenty of other places the provincial government could increase revenue if we were to transition to private liquor. Liquor is far too expensive compared to other provinces and countries, where it is evident that a lower price doesn't correlate with increased consumption. Lower prices will allow Saskatchewan citizens to spend more money within the province and improve local economies. Additional revenue could be obtained through increased regulation of the oil and mining industries. Allowing them to maintain their profits while requiring them to meet more environmental regulations will not only increase government jobs and income, but increase work in the private sector in environmental consultancy's and allow for more job creation within a growing industry.
Saskatchewan is VERY behind the times in this area. Just returned from a visit to Alberta -- now that is a progressive place with more freedom for responsible citizens!
3. Alberta style Fully private
I am in full support of a alberta-style private retail system. It would create more choices for consumers and provide competition in terms of price for consumers to choose from. I would like to see more product selection since it would create a huge market for liquor produces and breweries from across Canada and North America. I am however dissapointed to see that the current private liquor stores in place are not providing consumers and significant discounts as opposed to other provinces. I would like to see prices considerably lower than what they are now and perhaps make it comparable in terms of prices to the rest of the country. It would also be beneficial to reduce the red tape in terms of wholesaling liquor in the province to allow more products into liquor stores at a cheaper cost. I had wanted to purchase an item that was in a flyer only to find out that other locations not in saskatchewan were selling this product. It made me fustrated as a consumer that I could not purchase what was advertised in the flyer here in saskatchewan but have to go to another store outside the province to purchase the product. In conclusion, Privatizing liquor in Saskatchewan would be the best solution than what we have now. However in order for it to really bring in gains from consumers, liquor prices needs to be competitive to other provinces, provide much more product selection, let new products enter Saskatchewan through the means of reducing the red tape in liquor wholesaling otherwise this is not going to work.
air miles like manitoba and ontario
Keep the existing govt stores as is.
It would be nice to see off sale dissappear all together. And to have retail fill that capacity. Retail is not open as late as offsale. Perhaps not providing alcohol when people are already drinking or leaving the bar may reduce alcohol related incidents.
Privatization please!!
It's time to end the government union monopolies.
Government liquor stores have improved significantly in the past 15-20 years, but the availability of craft-style beer is still not as good as it should be.

completely opposed to privatization.

Prohibition has been over for almost 100 years - so why does it seem like it never ended in Saskatchewan? Time to catch up with the other provinces. Hopefully this province will come to its senses and privatize bottle return facilities too!

I think privatizing liquor stores is nothing more than the government paying off their business friends and keeping workers wages low. Should you want to privatize liquor that bad open it up to grocery stores, Walmart, filling stations and all the rest. Otherwise leave it alone, it's not broken.

Please don't make decisions that will increase the availability of alcohol in our province. Do'nt make a short term financial decision that will reduce longer term revenue. If you have to increase the revenue, increase liquor prices. Don't sell the cow, raise the price for the milk. Consider the additional social harms in your decision making. Thank you.

I do not accept the representation that investing in liquor stores means there cannot be investment in other areas. Liquor retailing is a profit centre for the Gov't and maybe better management and entrepreneurial thinking within SLGA could grow the business and profits for the taxpayers of Saskatchewan. The Alberta experience has demonstrated that private liquor retailing cost the taxpayers money. Many of the ideologues here do not understand, or realize, that some lower pricing in Alberta has nothing to do with private retailing. Alberta had lower pricing than us before the move to private retailing because of their tax system, not because of the private stores.

There is no reason SLGA cannot expand the product offerings and make it easier for individuals to get special and unique products. Adding SLGA wine boutiques and other products to grocery stores would seem like a great enhancement. SLGA may need more imagination and open mindedness, but that is no reason to throw key elements of revenue and social issue control out in the blind pursuit of ideology. My personal politics are to the right, I am a Sask. party supporter, but this is one area where, as I see it, there are no benefits, and only losses to the people of Saskatchewan. We have way more than enough problems and issues with alcohol abuse and misuse. Having some control over access is a great social benefit. Real estate holdings and great jobs in small communities can be huge benefit and stabilizing aspect in those locations. It may be worthwhile subsidizing those operations for the greater good. With the right leadership it should be easier to positively impact the customer experience with better service and greater product selection, as well as, grow profits for the taxpayers. privatizing liquor retailing is a lose, lose, lose proposition.

I would like to see lower/competitive pricing.

I would like to see nutritional labels on alcohol products. As a diabetic it is difficult to know if a product contains added sugars.

Less regulation and more private retail. Government should keep profitable stores and sell off ones that are not profitable.

There should not be any restrictions due to population. Any store that wants to sell off sale should be permitted to do so!!!!!!!!!!!!

STOP TRYING TO FIX SOMETHING THAT IS NOT BROKEN.

SHAME ON THE AUTHOR WHO COMPOSED SURVEY QUESTIONS THAT FALSELY IMPLY GOVERNMENT/PUBLICLY RUN LIQUOR STORES ARE NOT PROFITABLE AND DIVERT FUNDING FROM OTHER SERVICES.

THE CITIZENS OF SASKATCHEWAN DEMAND WITHOUT EXCEPTION THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO OPERATE ALL EXISTING LIQUOR STORES.

STOP PRIVATIZING PUBLIC ENTITIES AND STOP WAGING WAR ON GOVERNMENT WORKERS.

THERE IS NO SUPPORT FOR PRIVATE LIQUOR STORES WHOSE ACTIONS DAMAGE LOCAL ECONOMIES AND REDUCE CITIZENS' QUALITY OF LIFE BY NEVER PAYING WORKERS A LIVING WAGE.

STOP DESTROYING ESSENTIAL COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOURS THAT CONSTITUTE THE FOUNDATION OF SASKATCHEWAN VALUES AND IDENTITY.

The current government policies on liquor sales have negative effects on regular consumers, who unduly bear the brunt of how restrictive liquor sales are in the province of Saskatchewan. The lack of availability of of liquor stores in specific neighbourhoods is disappointing. The inability to purchase liquor at government run liquor stores after 6pm and on Sundays is absurd to the point of almost being laughable. The lack of selection and the overpricing at government run liquor stores is problematic. I have lived in a number of cities in Canada and have travelled to most provinces and numerous states, the restrictiveness of liquor sales in Saskatchewan is unparalleled in any other province or state I've visited. Indeed, I am a young professional that is making a positive impact in my community. I find it appalling that after working a long day, helping clients or conducting research, if I happen to work past 6pm, I cannot stop in at the local liquor store to get a bottle of wine and have a glass with dinner. This needs to change because it is unacceptable that government policies impinge on my life in such a way.

It is 2014 and the government is still attempting to tackle this issue, any next steps that do not loosen the restrictions on liquor sales in the province will inevitably result in this discussion becoming a perennial issue, as it has been in this province for almost 100 years. Expand sales locations, extend hours, increase selection, and reduce prices on this commodity; this is the only route to real change in Saskatchewan on this issue. The restrictiveness on liquor sales has lasted long enough.

I'm that cognac brandy costs 3 times as much here as in the states. Get with it and quit ripping me off!
competition!!!
Nice wording on the question of whether the government should continue operating existing stores that can meet targets & efficiencies (sneaky way to get out of running them)
Regina isn't just full of overweight morons slugging back 30-40 of whatever the cheapest beer available is per night (ie GW or Boh) while watching their meaningless 9 team football league anymore. There are people from other more civilized cities/provinces that have to work in Saskatchewan now and there's no reason us people with more culture shouldn't be allowed to enjoy finer beers/wines/spirits just because Saskatchewan still acts like we're living in the dark ages.
I would like to see pricing and availability rival the USA.
I believe that liquor retailing in Saskatchewan should move to a substantially privitized system. It would be great to be able to purchase liquor in all grocery stores or in fully private stores. I believe the costs of liquor in Saskatchewan are too high and if privitization can help to provide cost efficiencies, then it should move forward. I also believe the selection of liquor in Saskatchewan needs to improve substantially. And to note, I do not consume very much alcohol, maybe on average a drink every week, so I can only imagine how strongly regular consumers would feel on these issues! Thanks PS. Please privitize!!!
We spent years regulating and control hard liquor sales to give it up to mom and pop store where profit not morals will be the only concerns.hench we will be plagued by hard liquor to minors in the name of profits. So I would suggest the system stays as status quo .these people are there to run a service under policies and guide line and are not driven by out side managments greed . On a side note these goverment stores are making a profit and sustaining there existence.if the provincial goverment losses this revenue they will just tax the heck out of somthing else
Well I'm open to privatization of a limited number of storefronts in large communities that can support the odd boutique liquor store, unless a store is not profitable in any way to the government over a period of time I strongly support keeping the majority of liquor stores government owned and operated.
The people employed by the government have given many years of service. Know their jobs well and provide excellent service within the stores. They are very diligent in asking for ID. Are the private stores as diligent? I don't believe they are.
I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE GOVERNMENT DECIDING TO PRIVATIZE THE LIQUOR STORES!!! 1) THERE IS ALREADY ENOUGH DISRUPTION IN OUR PROVINCE WITH THE OIL PRICE FALLING THE WAY IT IS WHICH IS BOUND TO INCREASE THE UNEMPLOYED AS THE OIL COMPANIES WILL HAVE TO LAY OFF EMPLOYEES, SIMPLY TO REDUCE THEIR EXPENSES! 2) IN MY OPINION IT IS SOOOOO WRONG FOR OUR GOVERNMENT (ANOTHER BIG EMPLOYER FOR OUR PROVINCE) TO BE EVEN THINKING OF SELLING THE LIQUOR STORES WHICH WILL ALSO MEAN A LOSS OF JOBS. 3) I DO NOT LIKE THE INSINUATION IN THIS SURVEY AND ALL OTHER ARTICLES I READ, THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO DISTRIBUTE MORE MONEY TO ROADS, HEALTH AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS "IF" THE LIQUOR STORES ARE SOLD! THAT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE SENSE. IF YOU SELL "OUR" MOST PROFITABLE GOVERNMENT CORPORATION, YET KEEP THE CORPORATIONS THAT ARE LOSING HUGE MONEY (such as STC), THERE JUST CANNOT BE MORE MONEY AVAILABLE TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANYTHING!!! RIGHT NOW THE ROADS IN OUR PROVINCE ARE THE WORST IN ALL OF NORTH AMERICA WHICH SHOULD BE THE BEST WITH THE FUEL TAX AND THE LIQUOR TAX THAT WE "TAX PAYERS" ARE ALREADY PAYING... IT IS VERY SCARY TO THINK THEY WILL GET WORSE! I DO NOT WANT PRIVATIZATON OF THE LIQUOR STORES. SHOULD THAT HAPPEN, I FOR ONE AND I KNOW OF SEVERAL OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS THAT WILL ALSO CHANGE OUR VOTE IN THE NEXT ELECTION! YOU COULD KEEP THE PROFITS YOU ARE CURRENTLY GETTING AND MAKE MORE BY SELLING THE CURRENT BUILDINGS AND LEASING THEM BACK. AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN I WOULD LOVE TO BUY A BUILDING AND HAVE THE GOVERNMENT AS A TENNANT!!! JUST IMAGINE, NO MORE EXPENSES FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE, PROFIT FROM THE SALE OF THE BUILDING AND HUGE PROFIT FROM THE LIQUOR SALES! WIN WIN I WOULD SAY! PLEASE DO NOT PRIVATIZE!!!!!!
Ready availability of alcohol during extended hours and on Sundays already cause significant harm in our community - no need to increase access.

It's about time the provincial government starts moving in a progressive direction when it comes to alcohol sales. Previous governments treated the people of Saskatchewan like children, trying to ensure that we only buy certain types of alcohol, at minimum prices, only from government owned stores. The changes that were introduced a few years ago were long overdue, but we still have a long way to go before they are where they should be. There is a minimum drinking age in effect; that should be the start and end of our concern for the 'social harm' of alcohol. Price will never dictate alcoholism levels; it's ridiculous to think so. An alcoholic will drink what an alcoholic will drink, regardless of price; the only negative impact is the one created by the minimum prices instituted by the very government trying to curb social harm, as that person will spend more money on alcohol (not drink less). They will therefore have less money for groceries, housing, clothing, savings, etc. This leaves them poorer, potentially contributing to their cycle of drinking (congratulations ignorant government on contributing to the issue in your effort to apply morals to the law; when will government ever realize it is not in the business of dictating morals???). The government needs to get out of the telling us how to live our lives business and stay in the managing public safety and infrastructure business. This is the same for 'sin taxes'. People don't quit drinking or smoking because the government makes cigarettes and alcohol slightly more expensive every few years; they make a conscious decision to do so for their own personal and health reasons (these are adults remember). I commend the government for looking in to this issue, but it goes far beyond which stores are allowed to sell booze. Bob Byomen is the only person in the province with any logical reason to campaign for government run alcohol sales; if he loses this battle, it would be a terrible strike against his all too powerful, but altogether unnecessary mafia.

some of your survey questions are skewed to get the answer you want..."should government invest in more important areas instead of putting money into liquor stores? "

Expanded Government Control option would suit best. Control is so important. Government needs to continue to support training and education to government employees. Liquor laws need to be enforced so that the public is more aware that government-run liquor stores are serious and professional. Private stores prices most likely won't have lower prices, just hopeful, but not guaranteed. Selection and lower pricing can be an option with government-run liquor stores.

I think of my children and how easy it is for kids under-age to purchase alcohol now-but not from liquor stores, which have the educated staff and the policies in place-which are being enforced. For example-Check 25. Luv it. Would the private owners have these policies in place? and abide by them? Lower prices are more important to me. Government run stores can make prices competitive if they want to-giving the look of a private owned store-with different marketing strategies. Move forward with the government run stores, just make improvements. Show the public that liquor stores employ hard workers, and lower the prices, and carry the trendy products. Work harder on making that happen within the 75 existing stores by offering excellent training programs for the employees. Work on making the young generation interested in working for a great organization with benefits and inviting wages. And, give the public the impression that the liquor store employees deserve. Its sad to see that someone wants another person's job abolished, when they don't know what that employee is capable of, and that they have family to support, too. These employees work hard for their money. A lot of physical demands, and stressful mental demands.

Please don't consider privatization.

Beer and wine should be available in grocery stores, as it is in Quebec. I would also support any business (private/public) who would be able to open up shop in a mall. This makes for convenient one-stop shopping.

the province needs the money

Government should be concerned with running the province rather than regulating where and what time a product is sold. Alcohol is so much more expensive not only here in SK, but in Canada in general, when if you visit other countries you know how badly you are being taken advantage of.

all in all, i think the government should continue collecting lct tax to maintain great revenue for our province.

SLB Stores have fine selections and prices. Research shows that privatizing does not improve either one. Let's continue to pay workers well, and let revenues go to province.

My suggestion: put more of an obligation on workers to not sell to drunk people, and to report suspected bootleggers to police. Bootlegging can be stopped with some coordination.

Do what makes the most sense. There is no significant margin in liquor retailing and gov't controlled is very much worse unless the consumer pays the difference.

i think private liquor sale will generate more employment, will provide extended hours and more refrigerated products

Privatize! The government should not compete with the people who put them there. The fewer jobs in SGEU the better off for the province. The SGEU suggestion that only government employees can be trusted to sell liquor is insulting, naive and ludicrous!

I support our current layout of liquor purchasing regulations and how it is tightly monitored by government oversight. I feel that by allowing privately owned liquor retailers to operate in our province we are making it easier for the rules to be ignored. I think this will increase the access of alcohol to minors as well as there being less regulations followed by a private company compared to

a government one. The government has to answer to the public so are more inclined to follow the rules while the private sector skirts the rules to maximize profits. Its currently much easier for a minor to go to a bar and get alcohol than it is for them to buy alcohol from a liquor board store, so I think this problem would only increase with private sale. Trying to regulate multiple companies also would be much more difficult and prone to more mistakes and problems with public safety. I am strongly opposed to allowing private liquor sales to occur in Saskatchewan and hope this trial does not pass its test phase.

The Alberta model seems to work fine & makes good sense (from my interpretation of your background information). I do not support a blanket markup percentage (as we currently have), but rather appreciate that everything is available from the provincial warehouse.

I just had my parents bring me 3- 66 oz bottles of scmirnoff from Alberta. No word of a lie, the money I saved will buy me a 66 bottle here in Sask (Saved $20 per bottle). The Alberta govt made the taxes on that sale instead of it going into the sask finance dept, and I'm A-OK with that, as I have more money left in my pocket to spend on other things.

Allowing private markets purchasing from the central warehouse will work great and still allow provincial stores, unless they sell the product at a point lower than competition & because they remain a crown corp are allowed to be bailed out by the govt.

hi there,

i believe the gov.should get out of the liquor retailing buisness,except for regulation purposes,

the liquor retailing should be left up to private retailing stores, with no limit on how many could operate in a given area.

the hours of operation should be left up to the owners of these private stores, so myself as a consumer would have better access to the product.

the gov. must get out of the liquor retailing buisness,

sell the existing gov.operated stores to the private sector, and provide regulation to the private operated stores,

also, setting a minimum price for product,in my view ,does not curtail consumtion,those who want a drink will find a way to get product, regardless of price,

removing the minimum price,i feel would allow consumers a more competative market for the products they consume.

You know very well that the whole point of allowing more private sales of liquor is to make a profit. The only way to do this is to hire part time employees at minimum wage. No one can live on that wage in this province any more.

Please continue government owned liquor stores. Do not allow private outlets.

Ownership is the only way . Why fix if not broke . If it makes a profit every year and is used to fund hospitals and roads what's wrong with that. Does a employee that makes a decent wage put more in to the community than one that is payed minimum wage. I think so . The owner of private stores will not spend profits on roads and hospitals !!!

Government run liquor stores are an asset and should not be put into private hands. They generate income for the government.

Our government requires revenue and the liquor stores are a source. It makes no sense to give this away.

Liquor retail sales should not be privatized in Saskatchewan. Lowering taxes on alcohol should be the priority not privatization. Alcoholic products that are produced in Saskatchewan and exported are cheaper to purchase in other provinces than here at home. That is just wrong.

The biggest concern I have regarding liquor sales in Saskatchewan is not private vs. public. It's the costs associated with the highly regulated liquor sales laws we have here. I support both private and public liquor stores, and I believe there should be a mix, or an Alberta style system where the government still plays a role in distribution. The hours and convenience of the private stores are the greatest advantage to privatization in my eyes.

However, the main issue to be looked at should still be the cost we have to pay for our liquor here. It is unbelievable to me how certain liquor manufactured in Saskatchewan can be found for cheaper in other provinces or in the U.S.

Simply letting private retailers sell liquor, while still having the government regulate costs is not a truly privatized system. Yes, there may be more options, longer store hours, and greater convenience. But we are still paying too much for liquor in Saskatchewan due to outdated regulations and laws from past governments.

Some of the regulatory costs need to be re-evaluated. I do see the purpose of them in discouraging minors from drinking, preventing individuals from developing alcohol dependencies, and earning revenue to fund social programs. But I believe the government needs to research the correlation between alcohol prices and the rate of problem/underage drinkers and the rate of alcohol related crime. I am no expert on the matter, but I would be surprised to see if any of those factors are truly affected by liquor prices.

I am very pleased that our current provincial government is beginning to look into these matters and that they are asking for public opinion. I do believe it is important for our province to be progressive and find better ways to control liquor sales that

benefit the consumers and the province.

if you do decide to downsize it is important to keep major centres like wynard,humboldt,melfort,etc

The current system is satisfactory. More privatization means more part-time jobs at minimum wage and no benefits.

We travel to the US quite often and purchase liquor at Costco, Walmart, grocery stores, drug stores and the communities have not fallen apart. There are always way more patrons in the food section than the liquor section. Privatize to more private retailers and grocery stores ASAP!

1. One of my concerns in this discussion is for the employees; regardless of industry efforts should be made to ensure employees have access to dependable employment. An employee should have the benefit of not being worried about job security, and be properly compensated.

1a. Tangentially, governmental healthcare policies should be re-worked to include optical as well as semi-limited dental (I am agreeable towards the idea of my tax dollars going towards dental maintenance such as fillings or braces, but not whitening).

2. I am currently in favor of maintaining the current government mark-up, with one exception below in 3. I strongly believe that the number retailers within a community should be limited, with one exception below in 3.

2a. Tangentially, I would suggest the exploration of additional ways to increase public awareness of an individual's social responsibility while consuming alcohol. Such exploration may include additional education in school systems, treatment options in addition to or instead of traditional punishment in the legal system, as well as bans on an individual's consumption of alcohol if they prove themselves to repeatedly abuse alcohol. While exploring in these veins every effort should be made to not demonize the majority of the population who do drink responsibly.

2b. I am strongly of the belief that in the relatively near future marijuana will be legalized for recreational consumption. Additionally I believe that it would best if the laws and modes of distribution were more in-line with those of alcohol rather than tobacco. Indeed, I would like to see tobacco managed more like alcohol, particularly in it's manor of sale.

3. I believe Saskatchewan could benefit by encouraging the growth of microbreweries and other such producers of alcohol. This could potentially be done through allowing microbreweries a reasonable exception to the retailer limits or governmental mark-ups I suggest in 2. I believe Saskatchewan has potential to increase it's presence as an exporter of alcohol.

3a. Tangentially, I am disappointed with Saskatchewan's largely resource based economy. We have, largely, failed to process these resources before presenting them to the world market. Efforts should be made to stimulate the growth of processing industry within the province.

Private liquor sales ASAP!!

govt run the country,take required amount of liquor taxes , not own retail establesments

I feel it's most important that the revenue generated through liquor sales be used toward government programs such as education, health and roads. I would not like to see these profits funnelled toward private investors rather than the public purse.

If the government markup on liquor will remain the same, I'm not sure what impetus there might be to open (or shop at) a private store - if the prices are the same, I'd rather support government programs than a private company.

The last thing we need is an Alberta-style full privatization of retail liquor sales, whether it happens quickly or is phased in. Almost everyone I've talked to thinks that privatization means cheaper liquor. I hope the Government will be honest with people and tell them this can't happen. Lower lower prices reduce tax revenue.

Provide retailers with the opportunity to be market competitive instead of using the current model of price fixing by the government. The government should get out of price gouging instead of encouraging underground moonshine operations.

Currently sask liq stores employ fairly paid cupe employees. To do away with govt stores means loss of good jobs in return for min wage garbage jobs. The owner climbs on the back of the working man. This infuriates me. I will speak out against any govt that condones this. Some private stores in bigger centres along with govt liq stores is good for variety. Also our prices here are way to high and should fall by forty percent.

Leave well enough alone.

It works very well the way it is.

I am not in any way unsupportive of government owned/operated liquor stores, but from my experience, every private liquor store I have visited is operated much better, and most importantly, have a much greater selection of product. Specifically The Willow in Regina, has an amazing selection of beer and spirits that I have been unable to find anywhere else in our province. Not only that, but the selection is constantly changing and expanding, which is a GREAT thing. Government run liquor stores seem to have an alright selection of product, but rarely expand on what they already sell. I choose to give my business to private liquor stores whenever I can for that reason. The variety of beer and liquor, as well as the frequency that the selection changes,

is the very most important aspect to me and many others, even if it does cost me a bit more.
Open up franchisee rights to bidding from private individuals// businesses in rural communitees where fair competition to franchises were not available previously.
Put more emphasis on putting money back into communities and children/schools, less on how much alcohol to sell and having a large selection. Government owned has more ability to put money back into the community.
keep the revenue from liquor sales in our, the people of SK, hands. If we are making money from liquor stores, why privatize?
I have recently moved back to SK after many years in AB. I far prefer the system we have operating here over AB as there is greater care and attention given to location and operation of liquor stores. While "one on every corner" is convenient, it also attracts no end of problems. Let's be wise about this and learn from our neighbours.
I have been in Saskatchewan for 10yrs and have lived in Winnipeg for 3 yrs and grew up in Edmonton. Therefore I support a Alberta style. The raised pricing for safety purposes simply takes more money from that family. If the adult does not practise responsible drinking they will spend regardless of the price. I have always found the blank statements towards Alberta on liquor rude. Also I believe the drinking issues in this province are no better then others. I also do not appreciate that I can not get cold beer at every store which is possible in some of the smallest stores in AB. The selection is also poor and the service has been no better or worse then the stores I have visited in our neighbours on both sides. The government will still get the liquor tax which I hope would be enough. I hope there would be some savings in the employee wages.
The government markup on ALL products are totally ridiculous. Lower prices should be your priority. Pricing does not preclude use or abuse.
The majority of my friends and coworkers drive to Alberta and buy large amounts of alcohol to bring back. We pay about 60% less there (Costco and Superstore we often go to). I wish Saskatchewan would get rid of this NDP mentality with alcohol sales.
Privatize them all. The government has no business being in business.
why is liquor twice as much to buy the same item in alberta or ontario?
na
Option 5
The only two issues I see with the current system are: the extremely limited product selection and the way lower priced items are taxed much higher than those with greater base costs (eg. an inexpensive wine has a much greater percentage of taxes than an expensive bottle)
Expert opinion seems to support maintaining control of the liquor retailing system in Saskatchewan. It benefits the province in a number of ways and should not be abandoned due to an ideological stance of the current premiere and his supporters.
Unless the wholesale costs are reduced, I doubt that privatizing will net any benefit to the people of Sask. I think the current government need to think carefully these days in lite of all the other fiascos like smart meters and lean. I'd leave well enough alone and start looking like you care for the health the province instead of private business.
The problem with product availablility in Saskatchewan isn't that the Government can't bring it in, it's the lack of space in the stores. If you have to carry 5 different sizes of eat type of hard liquor, you aren't able to bring in all the different types of beer and wine. To say that privatizing liquor will bring us cheaper and more diverse liquor is ultimately misleading. We may have wine or beer specialty stores privately but it will no longer be a one-stop shop for liquor needs and the last thing I want is to have to go to three different stores to get my booze no matter how close they are in prozimity to eachother. Not only that, why does it make sense for private retailers to receive the profits from our liquor sales instead of the people buying the liquor in the first place? Where do we recoup the millions of dollars in sales that go to kids sports. And what happens to those folks who work at the SLGA stores that are only qualified for that. Without a government pay scale and benefits their quality of living will be drastically reduced. Full privatization doesn't make sense.
Responsible people will always be disciplined in their alchol consumption therefore, Govermnet should focus more on health and other important stuff rather than runnig liquor stores.
A nice combination of govt and private now. Open up fully private stores (co-op) in small cities and watch all the franchise stores go broke!
I hope Sask continues to operate the liquor board stores as they do currently. It would be very sad to see that provincial revenue stop. Programs would be cut and taxes would go up. Not good.

I think liquor should only be sold in a liquor store, and not sold in a grocery store.
Saskatchewan should go to an Alberta style liquor retailing with minimal government control.
Price is the biggest thing for me. I can go to Alberta and buy beer brewed downtown Saskatoon cheaper than I can buy it in Saskatoon. I would bet that most people driving from Alberta to Saskatoon have alcohol in their vehicle because of the price. If Sask lowers their price this will stop. I really don't believe that cost has an effect on the drinking that people do. As the costs of alcohol goes up people turn to illegal drugs.
I feel it would be a stupid move on the government's part to allow privatization of the liquor stores. they are an excellent source of revenue for the government and if we lose that revenue, then all I can envision is higher taxes to make up the deficit.
I currently purchase more liquor from outside Saskatchewan than from within due to the limited selection available. Alberta, Montana and North Dakota offer far more varieties of craft beer. Alberta's Costco stores sell their brand of liquors at significant savings.
Keep liquor stores public and SK govt should build new buildings.
I further support the ability to purchase liquor through online retailers. Canadian vinyards, scotch clubs, and beer clubs are all unavailable in the province due to our antiquated liquor laws. We need to grow and change, and quit with the extreme taxation of liquor.
I am happy with the government ran liquor stores and will continue to purchase all of my alcohol from them rather than private stores because I believe in their ability to supply and provide for Saskatchewan. I also believe they provide meaningful and gainful employment and have many benefits which I am willing to pay for. I would rather purchase a more expensive product that supports staff and the province rather than supporting a private interest. Cheaper isn't always better, as well I cannot believe that the province cannot successfully run liquor stores.
This should not be the government's priority. Please focus on health care.
I believe we should go the same route as Alberta. Competition is good for the comsumer.
Under no circumstances should any government revenue maker be privatized. This is what our parents & grandparents built this province on.This gov't has no mandate to destroy this.
I want to say with the recent down-turn in oil price I would expect the government to keep its profits from the current liquor operations.
My biggest issue with My main issues with the government being involved with the sale of liquor is the added costs of government involvement. While I understand there needs to be checks and balances in the operation of a government, the size and scope of the SLGA and its unionized staff has created an unwieldly bureaucracy that is no longer needed. At this time, there are enough options to purchase liquor that has proven we do not need highly paid union employees doing effectively the same work as those in a grocery store.
Imposing a regressive tax on liquor through minimum pricing increases social harm in my opinion. I'm a socialist but by making liquor less affordable for lower income citizens we are increasing its harm, not decreasing it.
If more private stores are going to be allowed it would be nice to see smaller businesses or entrepreneurs have an opportunity to start some.
I want to see option #5, I believe this is the best and only long term option for SK. 5. Expanded Government Retail System Under this option, Saskatchewan would maintain a blended public-private liquor retail system, but the role of government stores would be maximized in the system going forward. Government stores rather than private liquor stores would be constructed to meet future consumer demand and government would actively look for opportunities to re-establish government liquor stores in communities currently served by a franchise. In addition, government could follow Manitoba’s lead by introducing government liquor kiosks in grocery stores. What does it mean? For Consumers Continued predictability in products and prices across more government stores in the province. A bigger role for government retailing would eliminate the benefits of competition for consumers, such as greater product selection and price variability.

For Government Government would have a higher degree of control over the retailing system. Government would be required to invest in new government stores to meet future demand, in addition to on-going cost of reinvestment in existing government stores. This would reduce government's capacity to invest in other public priorities.
keep the stores you have and expand the private sector. Phase out government stores over a longer period through retirement and closing of stores that need to much repair. I don't agree on closing all or any government stores in the near future as it takes away decent paying jobs and replaces them with more minimum wage jobs.
Yes twice the mention of investing in other places if the liquor are making money then they government isn't investing in them they are recieving revenue this is disgusting way to try to change peoples way of thinking by the wording. If the government needs more revenue cancel the newly created MLA's less govenment not more there is your deficite problem. A lot of these questions are so the govenment can play the percentage very poorly written.
High prices do not discourage abuse or excess. People buy liquor from other provinces and countries whenever they can because prices are not competitive in SK. Changing mindset by education is more affective than increasing prices, in my opinion. I expect that Alberta liquor misuse statistics are no different than SK despite paying %30 to %50 less for liquor. If government really wanted to affect liquor misuse, liquor would be banned.
Close all small stores and keep larger stores in larger centres open. Keep open all existing stores in Regina, Saskatoon, Price Albert, Yorkton, Lloyd, North Battleford, Moose Jaw, etc etc. close all small towns and let co-op, Sobey's, and Costco open up all new stores in these urban centres
Taxpayers need the revenue generated from the government-run liquor stores and franchises. Especially now when oil and gas royalties are down. When the current system is making a profit, why do you want to sell? Why hand it over to the private sector? They'll make all the money -- they will be paying their staff less -- taxpayers will have to subsidize their employees. Privatizing liquor is a no win situation for taxpayers of this province.
Privatization of liquor stores should not result in decreased revenues for government. Private liquor stores will like generate more revenue at a lower cost and the government can tax at an appropriate level to maintain revenues. Thank you for seeking true public opinion. The Sask government employees conducted a phone survey that was highly biased, which I ended mid-way as it was designed to misrepresent the opinion of SK residents. This survey should be discarded as it was clearly in support of maintaining union jobs. Thanks.
Other than taxes, allow free market pricing, site locations and hours of operations
I am all for privitazation in all aspects of Sask. life. Sick of being ripped of by crown corporations and government control. Alberta had the right idea back in 1988 and it has gotten better all the time.
There are several loaded statements in this survey. A less biased public consultation survey tool would build public confidence in the current review process.
THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND PRIVATE RETAIL SYSTEM. STOP FURTHER INVESTMENT IN PHYSICAL STORES. FOCUS ON RESPONSIBLE REGULATION AND WHOLESALE WAREHOUSING
While I recognize and understand a need for government regulation of liquor sales, I see no good reason for the government to be directly involved in the sale of alcohol. As the green paper points out, the status quo has evolved from the Prohibition era of nearly a hundred years ago; it's time Saskatchewan moved into the 21st Century with respect to liquor sales. Many US states allow the sale of wine and beer in grocery stores; this is convenient for the customer and I'm not aware that these jurisdictions have more serious problems with alcohol abuse than Saskatchewan. Closer to home, alcohol consumption is higher in Alberta than in Saskatchewan (as per the green paper), and yet media reports suggest that Saskatchewan has more instances, per capita, of alcohol abuse. If this is so, then neither government control of liquor sales nor the responsible pricing regime seems to be having the desired effect. At the same time, these long-standing policies give rise to less choice, less convenience and likely higher prices for those who do not abuse alcohol. The current government has already made a variety of welcome (and overdue) changes to liquor laws; in my view, it's now time to try something different and more beneficial for the responsible consumer with respect to direct retail sales. In summary, I would favour a managed transition to a fully private system, preferably including beer and wine in grocery stores and more competitive pricing.
Alcohol can lead to medical issues and therefore the revenue from these sales should flow to the province to pay these increased costs.
Please do not de-regulate alcohol sales in the province. More access is not needed. There are enough problems already.
I think the government needs to change, Saskatchewan was built on and maintained by revenues generated from the crown corporations and their thousands of employees pay taxes and generate a lot more spending than the same number of people

employed in the private industry simply because the crown employees are paid a better wage. Those same crowns keep the essentials in life affordable. The more the government privatizes crowns the more it gives away in revenue. Sure there will be some taxes generated by private industry, but that will not offset the revenue the crowns generate each year. Furthermore, private retailers main concern is Profit and they do that through cutting costs and raising prices. If they can't raise prices (cause they want to compete), they cut costs which is usually jobs, and they sure don't offer the same wages or benefit packages as the crowns, thus there will be more lower paying jobs with more privatization and thus less income taxes and less spending by those people. The only ones that will make more money will be the actual owners of the private retail outlet, and those few do not generate the same spending as many employees. The government will see less in revenue from less taxes, no crown revenue, less overall spending by consumers as they make less money, etc. If anything, the government should be creating more crown corporations with better paying jobs to look after areas of service the private sectors are failing on or do not want to be involved in. Why do we want to be Alberta, we are Saskatchewan and proud of it. Yes Alberta had it's boom, but now it is so damn expensive to live in people and industry are moving away and coming to Saskatchewan, so do we want to follow that same path and drive everyone away, I don't think so, I'm quite happy living in an affordable province, don't change that.
Changing to private liquor stores is a mistake that small stores will pay for
I moved here from Alberta 10 years ago. I am surprised it has taken this long to privatize retail liquor outlets. Make it fair so ALL small business owners can benefit from retailing Liquor. I was really disappointed that I was not allowed to open a liquor store because of the extravagant standards set for retail outlets. Totally unfair and unnecessary.
SK needs the revenue generated from alcohol sales. Do not pass the revenue to private hands that will not benefit the public in any way. Stop the privatization of many of SK public entities for your short term gain at SK citizens expense.
Selling a business that will continue making money for the government while also providing better salaries for employees and improved social responsibility for society at large seems like a substantial mistake. Opening more government operated stores attached to grocer's and other convenient locations would be nice if possible.
Be more open and get away from the hiding of liquor. It's a part of our society and life style. We do not need the government to be in an area that the market economy will monitor. Education and openness could help the teenagers thrill of drinking (often to excess).
Strippers encourage prostitution introduced to buy hotel assoc support, The NDP threw people with gambling addiction to the wolfs for same reason. hotel assoc And now in the name of free enterprise will increase liquor consumption. Why share income tax with ottawa
I should not have to wait until I go to Alberta the U.S. to buy reasonable priced booze. I disagree that I as a tax payer pay huge wages for a stocker or cashier with a pension plan and benefits
I agree with expanded liquor retailing
My biggest concern is definitely the loss of good jobs. Private stores do not support families. Private stores have less product. A few private stores for specialty product are okay but not at the expense of being able to support good government jobs. I will support government jobs before I will support one guys business where his employees all earn minimum wage and live in poverty.
Giving the profits from liquor sales to some one else makes no sense. The government should keep the profits to help with other costs.
It's time to ditch the archaic liquor regulations and allow beer and wine in grocery stores. All government run liquor stores should be gradually phased out as they need upgrades. Product should not have to be shipped through the SLGA warehouse in order to be imported into the province (let the ministry of finance audit private stores for compliance with PST remittances like any other business).
It is time we got out of the puritanical regulatory process and recognize citizens are competent and capable of making decisions for themselves. We don't regulate motor vehicles like we did in the 1930's so why still perpututae the the 1930's regulating liquor?
Reduce restrictions/limitations on number of rural liquor/beer vendors in specific areas. (i.e. Candle Lake)
Keep the status quo as is,the current system is working ok!!
Follow the same model as Alberta. Pricing included.
I believe that the privitization of liquor stores would impact the revenue we see from them, it would also eliminate livable wage jobs. Privitized stores especially the one in regina pays just above minimum wage. The problem with the goverment ran stores is that the staff are unknowledgeable about their producs, and essetially are just chashiers and stock shelves. Increase the craft beer, and craft spirits availability in the governement stores and no one would have a reason to visit the private stores. There is no substantial pricing different between the two that I have noticed.

Leave it as it is. We need all the money we can get to give back to the province to cover much needed funding for health care, roads etc
option #2
I support government regulation of alcohol in all aspects, but there is absolutely no need for government retailing these products.
I don't mind some private liquor stores since there always have been some in small towns etc. but I would vote against complete privatization. I like it the way it is now actually.
The current set up is working. Profits go back to Saskatchewan people, not businesses from out of province.
I would support the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores in the City. They should not need to have a separate building.
The liquor purchasing process in this province feels ridiculously over-regulated and the product selection at gov't run liquor stores is terrible, especially for specialty-beer drinkers. I buy everything from the Co-op liquor store in Saskatoon now.
I think this exercise is more about this government's hatred of and war on unionized labour than about improving liquor purchase options. It is a smokescreen for anti-labour attacks.
Liquour retailing needs to be modernized in the province. Open more stores to provide easier access to alcohol and reduce costs so that people are not spending a large percentage of their personal budget on consumption of alcohol. However, this may be difficult to do if the Government wants to maintain income levels to support health care, etc.
I buy beer in Alberta but still support our local brewery, Great Western. It seems stupid to me that I have to drive to Alberta to buy beer that is made in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan is losing a lot of provincial tax revenue because of this. I would gladly pay the extra 5% provincial sales tax and buy in Saskatchewan.
Want private stores.
The Wall Government is only interested in giving away all our Crowns and putting lots of Sask residents out of work! The public will be extremely sorry & financially broke after the Crowns are given away & we lose millions of dollars in revenue from our Crowns! The financial impact of privatizing crowns will be felt for eternity.
I think overcharging for premium brands (eg:single malt scotch) is an incentive for people to purchase these brands in other jurisdictions. If I can afford to purchase premium brands, I can likely afford to travel, and to stock up when I am in another province.
I would be interested in the government keeping the stores they already have, but allowing private stores to open within reason. I certainly don't want to see every tom, dick and harry opening stores nor do I want to see one on every corner. I would also like to see the government stores upgraded. Some are absolutely disgusting!! The one closest to my home I hate to go into and am thrilled to have the Co-op store to make my purchases instead. I have only been back to the Confed store once since the other one opened.
We lose out on a lot of sales because as soon as we go to Alberta, we buy it cheaper and bring it back. Government pricing is killing the industry here!! If you want to ask me more questions about my thoughts email me at
There does not need to be more hours to buy alcohol. Some places are even open Christmas Day! If people can't get what they want during the current hours - too bad for them! SK has such a high number of alcohol related offences that the province cannot make it easier and more accessible for people to drink more.
once the goverment sells off every thing, they will be at the mercey of the private sector whiche means goverment makes no residual profit and have no assets left. short term gain but long term disaster. look at how the constuction industry is raised the costs of road building with poor quality. also remove (any)political party's management freinds from running companies. proper QUALIFIED person!!
If the private companies can afford to put bricks and mortar into stores for profit, so can the Government. Keep the public stores for a good living wage compared to what the private stores are going to pay their employees. Don't sell out to your private 'friends'. Seriously.
I would like craft breweries and similar small businesses (wineries, distillers) to have greater ability to sell their products. For whatever reason, it seems distribution of these fine products is very limited, often to the brewers own outlet.
We should have private stores if the gov't ones stay also and limit the private ones. And why is it that the private ones can bring

in more alchol and sell it for less than the gov't ones. Seems like the gov't is helping the private ones suceed!!!
Competition in the market place is needed. I think that if there are more stores that are allowed to operate the market will adjust to the prices they set. Having more private stores will help create more jobs.
Privatize is the only option and not regulate price.
Stay Status quo. We don't need Alcohol in Grocery stores. We don't need a Liquor store on every corner or to sell liquor all hours of the day and night.
I do not support the privatization of government liquor stores. If stores are unprofitable they need to be looked at on an individual basis.
Liquor sales in grocery stores please. American type system.
The current system has sufficient access. I am not in favor of increased availability as it encourages greater consumption which can have adverse health and social effects. Some increase in variety of products could be tested to see if profitable. Some of the questions are value-loaded to get the pre-determined response the govt is looking for. Such as the false dichotomy of investing in public liquour stores vs other public spending. The proper comparison s/b the cost of supporting a pubic vs cost of private system, as we taxpayers will be paying either way. Use evidence-based decision-making and full cost-benefit analysis. If the public system brings more benefits to the province, that should be the basis for the decision, not ideology. All public infrastructure should be well-maintained, and modernized where needed, not left to run down in order to support privatization agenda.
We should stick with govt-run liquor stores--they do a good job, they provide good jobs, and they MAKE MONEY! Sure private liquor stores can be just fine--but why go there when we have a good thing going? Investment in new stores or refurbishing stores surely pays for itself--if not, the private sector sure wouldn't want to go there. Remember, liquor MAKES MONEY--why not make it for the govt? I shop private stores in BC and prices can be 20% higher--I don't want that here.
Status Quo, please. We are not Alberta - what is the government's obsession with the Alberta way of life?
I am against private liquor stores.
I think public liquor store are paid very generous wages compared to staff who care for senior and child in both public and private settings. I want the government to maintain the revenues from public liquor stores and also better fund long-term care facilities for seniors and take steps to improve the pay of early childhood educators.
would like to see dedicated area in store for local products.maybe some obvious signage for local craft beers and other local made products.
If Slga continues to operate it's outlets it should do so without legislation to restrict prices for other retailers. It's a competitive market. Let merchants decide for themselves what an acceptable profit is for their own business and compete In The market like any other merchant. Let the consumer decide who is providing the best value for the goods and services provided.
It's not broken so don't try to "fix" it.
I am strongly in favour of privatising liquor sales in Saskatchewan. Selling liquor in supermarkets and grocery stores would not increase drinking problems. I do not see why unionized government employees should be earning high wages for ordinary retail work.
Keep the way it is now,with decling resource revenue it is wise to keep the stores all under government control
Time to get out of old school thinking and come into age for Saskatchewan and within Saskatchewan More private liquor stores needed. The provincial sales tax will bring in more revenue than governments run stores do. Der. Do the math !
I support the government getting out of the retail liquor business
Thank you for the opportunity.
To much abuse of sick leave, workers comp and stress leave. If they weren't unionized they would have to actually work, overpaid they are not skilled workers.
Just leave it the way it is. we don't need any more privatisation.
Get with it Saskatchewan! So many people go to other provinces and stock up as not only is it costlier here but the selection is

much better.
Do not get away from government run stores good jobs private run stores would provide no benefits and low wages to its employees
I am in favour of an ALberta style of liquor retailing. I see no public policy reasoning for governments to be involved in liquor retailing.
I prefer government owned liquor stores because revenues go entirely back to the public purse, employees are well-paid and able to contribute to the SK economy, and the stores carry a wide variety of products compared to the private stores I have shopped at.
Don't privatize. Why the heck should private owners make huge profits and pay their employees minimum wage. The decent wages paid now to employees provide spin off to other business in our communities.
More private stores should be allowed as long as the Government limits the # of stores per population
I strongly believe that govt does not have a place in the liquor business, private retailors are the best option especially in time of restraint and budget pressures. The regulation on price has not worked well as there are numerous social issues especially in the north. Has SLGA every considered closing a liquor store where social problems persist? La Loche for example. The tax collected on liquor is too high, where we are able to buy to rigid and why deny people choice. These stores were established in a diffferent time, many things have changed - get out if the booze business - be bold and sell the 75 govt liquor stores and get on with proving a free market environment for the people of Saskatchewan
I strongly disagree with privatization of Saskatchewan Liquor Stores. In good times it may seem insignificant but however anyone with a brain can see that the profits in liquor are significant enough to protect for our joint benefit as a society. If you privatize this revenue it is gone forever and will negatively effect this province in the years to come. It will be like how we sold off all our highway maintenance equipment at one twentieth of the value and lost are ability to do highway maintenance with our own people. We pay more and to people outside our province and forever. Why keep selling ourselves short when we don't have do!
Show some sensible leadership & go further than Alberta. It's silly to require separate buildings(like Superstore in Medicine Hat). Hawaii system is great. Wide open sale in grocery stores, etc. Let the market determine retail prices & the number & location of retailers. Don't go half way on this.
I would support a mix of private and public stores. SLGA could improve their selection, but I hope once their new distribution facility opens this will improve. I have used the special order desk through SLGA and have found it to be efficient and effective, allowing me to bring in different products that I have tried elsewhere. I do not believe that moving to an all private model would result in cheaper prices for the consumer. In fact for higher end wine I have noticed that prices in SK tend to be lower than AB or BC. I support changes in regulation to allow craft beer makers to sell their products more easily and to allow for purchases to be made directly from wineries and wine clubs. I would enjoy being able to purchase alcohol at the grocery store for convenience. I object to the repeated statement that 2 more private stores will be opening in Regina when in fact there is only one. Sobeys will be opening in the north end. Willow Park is closing their existing store when the new one opens. Regina is getting one more store, not two.
I think the government should seriously look at privately owned stores similar to Alberta and I would like to see at least bear and wine available in grocery stores. The sask government spends far too much time and money continuing with government stores.
Government should keep publicly owned liquor stores. 2 of the questions in the survey were poorly worded. They made it sound like our current government can't invest in health, education etc. if they continue to operate government owned liquor stores.
I believe the current system allows for profit to be put back into the public sector and provides well paying, secure jobs with benefits. If these employees are not knowledgeable about the products they sell then that is a training issue that needs to be addressed! I don't see the rationale for privatizing. This survey make it sound like the current system is a costly investment for the government. From my understanding we (the people of Sask) benefit from profits from liquor sales. Why would we give this away to a private individual or company???
The liquor in this province is far to expensive. Privatizing would be better for consumers convenience, pricing and selection. I wish we would adopt a Alberta style platform.
Liqour prices in this province are ridiculous. People have problems for there own reasons i should not have to pay for it.
1: I have always been served well by the employees of the current gov't liquor stores. 2: Whenever I had to order product unavailable in stores, I had satisfactory service. 3: my experiences with stores in Alta left me feeling like the employees could care less about my customer satisfaction, something some have accused the SGLC of, but I haven't witnessed.

My preferred options for our gov't going forward would be option 5. Let's use the profits here in Sask., and enhance the offerings to deter shopping elsewhere!!
I found these questions almost loaded in some degree towards privatization. Would you like more choice in what you would like for alcohol? This question is misleading in its intent as I think it is directed towards privatization. It is similar to the federal plebicsite on getting rid of the Wheat Board, that being a confusing survey. I do not think these questions will get an accurate depiction of what the Saskatchewan public would want and find this survey flawed.
Mr Wall needs to worry about health care , roads , first nation initiatives , urban infrastructure , policing, senior care and most importantly , the economy . In light of the recent drop in oil prices and the impact on the budget , the last thing he needs to do is eliminate the govt run liquor stores. Unless of course , he can prove that they are not profitable . Hard to believe that he worries about this issue yet his loud proclamation that " Saskatchewan is open for business " now means that we may not have a budget surplus ? Has he been sleeping for the past 3 years ? Leave the liquor stores as is We have more pressing matters to worry about . Unless of course we let the NDP handle after the next election
Government should get out of the retail and wholesale liquor business with its costly real estate and employee costs. The private sector can do it. The government's job is to regulate the industry and get out of the rest of the business. The sooner the better.
Strongly opposed to options 3 and 4 (fully private retail system). I like standards prices (makes shopping easier), selection more than meets my needs, and I like the government is playing an active role in the sales/distribution and earning revenue from sales - which can be reinvested into the communities. I appreciate that operating costs factor into the equation - and am in favor of exploring alternatives in those circumstances where outlets are not profitable... government kiosks in grocery stores seems like an excellent idea to me as it improves accessibility, reduces my shopping time/gas, and maintains standard prices with less operating overhead than a separate store (resulting in increased profits?).
The government should not be involved in the retail liquor business in this province
I would like to see the Government run liquor sales outlets as it results in decent paying jobs for Saskatchewan residents and profits ease the tax burden on the residents of this great province.
Go to the Alberta type liquor store set up.
Investing in government liquor stores will allow the government to invest more in the priorities of the province such as education, health care, and infrastructure. The reason is they are the most efficient option to deliver retail liquor services.
buy my booze in Alberta
I feel there are more important issues in this province than privatizing liquor stores. How about concentrating on health care, education and senior abuse in care homes. By the way, what is this survey costing the taxpayers. After the liquor stores what's next?
Why are we doing this misleading survey. There are more important issues than privatizing liquor stores. How much is this survey costing? Do you and your government really not have anything better to concentrate on? Please tell me there are other important issues you can focus on! If not this is scary.
Do it like alberta does
Coming from Ontario, I am able to see the difference between Government owned and private owned. Both have advantages and disadvantages but I find that the cost of liquor in Saskatchewan very high.
1. I see no reason why private liquor stores are inherently better than public on price or selection. It's how we choose to run them. 2. Comparing craft beers that I enjoy between Calgary and Regina, the price I pay would INCREASE if I had to purchase from a private retailer. 3. I support taxation of liquor sales, but it should be based on flat rate per volume of alcohol, not the value of the sale, i.e. it should be the same tax on a $40 bottle of wine as a $100.
I do believe that we need a combined buying experience for Saskatchewan. In my experiance's of buying liquor from Alberta

over many years I have found that when they went to private retailers the prices were very competitive until the market shook its self out and stabalized. Today, and over the last number of years I have seen their pricing go through the roof from where it use to be. Private business is there for a reason.....profit, just like a government. I firmly believe that a combination of both would be the answer here, and a better selection of wines especially from government stores is vital too. My experiances of having to place orders for wines etc that I cannot purchase here is like pulling teeth. I have had many experiances where I do a far better job of finding product than the SLGA. I give them all the info they need, and they still can't get it right. Very frustrating!!! Overall though I feel a full blown private liquor market will not benefit us versus a combination of private and government. Pricing is important, but gouging is not fair either. We need a fair system that benefits both private, government and consumers. Pricing is the main reason for people buying in other places. Why pay $35 to $45.00 for a bottle of wine here when it can be had for $20 to $30.00 somewhere else. That is your lost revenue and some other provinces gain.
It is time to end government monopolies on alcohol sales. An open and competitive environment is the best way to serve the consumer.
The govt is losing revenue from resource's they should keep the profits generated by the govt owned stores and not give up this source of revenue to the private sector
I think all liquor stores should be privately owned. Government should get out of the retail business completely.
Keep it as is has been working very well thank you.
not good enough sale price in govt stores like the alerbta sales not sgeu high price stores.dont need to pay 30.00 for retail sales cashier
Importation of liquor from other provinces should be made less cumbersome. Consumers should be able to receive product without its having to be provincially warehoused en route.
Think the govt. has already decided, but just in case my view will be considered...
Get rid of the liquor tax and markup. Charge PST on all liquor and restaurant meals.
Keep the store structure the way it is. With privatization workers will make less money the only person who will benefit is the business man! If you like to make changes to the system allow the small players like craft brewers the ability to sell their product in government stores with less hassle.
Investing in current and any new liquor stores is just that...an investment that provides revenue for the saskatchewan people. The wages earned by current government workers is barely a living wage....the same can not be said about private companies (though some do) those that do not make a living wage further rely on the public services that our public liquor stores generate. Why even contemplate putting a ceiling on that....it is one of our surest revenue generators in the province. I am well aware that there would be revenue from private as well... But it is limited as they are pocketing a profit too. Saskatchewan has been a great place to life in large part because we look after one another....do not strip us of our ability to do so by removing/capping this revenue source that helps fund our public programming/services. I say as a proud citizen of this province.....invest more in our liquor stores....not less. You have to spend money to make money!
Keeping the government run liquor stores is important to me because it means quality, good paying Union jobs for hard working people. If it goes private, it won't mean more competitive pricing. It will be the same (or MORE as these businesses attempt to turn a greedy profit) & be staffed by part time workers making minimum wage with no benefits or job security. The Wall gov't is enjoying a high approval rating right now but frankly, it's not due to all his party's incredible choices. Sask was due for an upturn. And it's all set to come crashing down (low oil prices anyone??). We need to keep certain things Saskatchewan.
An economic analysis should be done on each retail location (existing and new)and the decisions should be based on the choice that yields the highest return to the Province.
I think privatization is the best, not only as consumer who will be able to decide which place I choose to shop at based on service and price. The province could better use money not on entitled employees and their exceedingly high pensions but into overall betterment of cities ie updated family recreation centers/facilities this has worked very well in the province of Alberta! Again giving citizens more choices and businesses the opportunity to earn consumers money
Well if it's a good idea to turn good paying jobs to minimum wage jobs, change profits from going to all the people of Saskatchewan to big multinational corporations, sounds logical to who?
leave liquor stores government owned
Government should be in the taxing and regulation business of alcohol not the retail end of the business
We must promote all liquor made in saskatchewan and drop the hurtles for selling in sask.We must get more Great western type companies to grow here. We should reclaim our hertiage on all the old labels sold here and re-launch them. even if it takes

some tax breaks. We had at least 10 breweries in this province.Have the big brewers give up the old names. Also there should be a clause that new brewers can't be bought out by the big players ie: kokonee in crestman bc. or Pilner in PA or Calgary or Old Vienna there is many labels from the 20;s that could be re-launched. Good survey. Thank you

Leave our public liquor stores alone.

This should not be a public vs private issue. Yes currently private are providing a slightly better service than the SLGA, but current liquor laws in sask make it difficult for any consumer or brewery to have good business with Saskatchewan. Laws need to have a major overhaul. Current laws put many restrictions on regulations that it deters breweries. There should be less restrictions so breweries are more able to work with sask, and there should be incentives for sask breweries themselves to become more profitable with their home territory.

With change, Saskatchewan itself can become more profitable. Change can promote Saskatchewan in a more business friendly manner, thus creating more business. I know many out of province craft breweries wont do business with sask because the way things are currently ran. Change can bring in more business with craft breweries, which will allow the sales of better beer. Selling more craft beer in province will have a great deal of consumers buying in province rather than out of provinces.

I would like a better selection. There are so many types that I would love to be able to purchase but am not able to. Some of them I can get through special order but alot of them I cannot.

Changes in AB did not lead to huge growth in revenue or consumption (per capita) nor did it make a huge difference in consumer pricing - so why even consider this question with so many other concerns that should be more important?

the slga warehousing system needs to be overhauled and private liquor stores should not have to order through the slga

Current policies are far too restrictive. Product choices and ability to adjust to what the market demands is very poor in government liquor stores. Government stores don't sell cigarettes and prescription drugs (both are regulated products), the same should be true with alcohol. Focus on more important things (healthcare, roads, education) and leave this up to the free market.

Dear SaskParty. Stop destroying our crowns and our labour force. Stop financially destroying the province.

The Alberta model is the best in Canada

I believe it is important for Government to maintain the same level of revenue from the taxation of alcohol. I enjoy drinking, but recognize that it creates lots of costs for society and this needs to be recognized.

I would like to point out that many questions on this survey are leading and make it hard to answer accurately. When discussing the revenue Saskatchewan makes on the sail of liquors, why is "maintaining" the current amount optimal? I believe that through new revisions on current laws, Saskatchewan could excel and flourish. Why not look to better than what we currently are? WE CAN DO BETTER. New laws should be in place of the old laws to allow Saskatchewan to flourish.

Also, I would like to add that the concern of alcohol abuse is a total miss on this issue. People who want to abuse alcohol are going to find a way to do so no matter what. They will pay what they have to, and they will get to whatever location they need to. Due to this select group of alcohol abusers, you actually are punishing the larger group of non abusers by trying to regulate the abusers. Saskatchewan by far has the harshest alcohol laws and regulations, and yet we also have the highest rate of alcohol abuse. Obviously regulations aren't doing what you intend them to do, but I can for sure say that the regulations are making your non-abusing consumers try to buy products out of province as much as they can. How can Saskatchewan residents be loyal to a system that is not loyal to Saskatchewan?

copy the alberta model

no

The liquor laws in saskatchewan are ridiculous, why does every other province allow around us allow private sales and bigger selection and we are stuck here in the dinasaur age. you bring in "craft beer" for 3 month a year absolutely stupid

I support option #3

Is there legislation regulating the number of stores that can sell tobacco in an area?

Setting prices at an intentionally high mark to prevent social harm is unfair to those who can control themselves. It hasn't stopped it so far.Does Alberta have more trouble with alcoholism?

It would be interesting to see how much revenue is being lost to Alberta from those bringing items back because it's that much cheaper. I believe it is significant.

Wine, beer and spirits should be available at grocery stores for one stop convenience.Cold products should not be restricted to off-sale.Government should get entirely out of retailing.

Generally, the way the analysis is presented, and the survey is constructed minimizes the profound social impact of addiction to

alcohol and alcohol abuse in Saskatchewan. Per capita use of alcohol relative to other jurisdictions is high in Saskatchewan, and the alcohol related harm is far higher than that of any other drug. This reality should be the primary factor in this discussion, so that government can influence problematic consumption as much as possible. This goal is in conflict with the goal of maximizing choice and profit opportunity, as much demand for that as there may be. A responsible government should be more concerned with risk and harm to its citizens as with short term economic and product choice opportunities. The real analysis (real dollar and social cost) of problematic alcohol use is almost missing from the public debate, and the government's framing of the issue. Unfortunate! We should think about what we've done with tobacco--something similar in the way of social policy for alcohol is needed.

SLGA salaries are what keep me from shopping inside a govt run retail store.

I grew up in Regina, SK and have enjoyed living here through the bad and good (lately there has been a lot of good, thanks for the Wall Government). I've had a chance to do a lot of travelling over the past 6 years thanks to a booming economy which enabled me to make good money again, thanks to the Wall Government. With some of the travelling I've done, I have personally witnessed and experienced private liquor stores and have to say, I was impressed. It was ran like a business and the people there actually appreciated your business, at least it felt like that.

I think it's a joke that employees in SLGA stores make $20+ an hour and receive a pension. If it was privatized, look at the money the province would save which could be put back into other sectors that are more important. Let's keep moving the province forward and keep young professionals here. I trust whatever the Wall Government decides is the best for the province, even if that means it remains the same, although I hope it doesn't.

Minimum & social responsibility pricing should be scrapped. Instead there should be a luxury tax on ultra premium products (Dom Perigion, $50+ 750 ml bottles of wine etc) to make up for the lost revenue. Education is the right way to reduce problem drinking, not draconian taxes on low priced drinks that unfairly effect lower and middle class people while having no effect on upper class problem drinkers. Off sales should receive the same discount as the private stores as they are the same thing as a private store since they can sell all products now. This would help bring down the extremely high prices that off sales charge in the cities. The Alberta system is best although drinks should be sold at convenience and grocery stores as well, and luxury products should have higher taxes than Alberta.

The government should Not be in the liquor business. The Alberta model seems to operate successfully and should be adopted in Saskatchewan. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to provide input.

One of the biggest issues is poor selection, and when good products are brought in, they are temporary. It feels like I'm going to a clearance store where what ever product happened to be cheap that week is brought in and will never return. I'm willing to pay premium prices for premium product, but I can't always get it.

Keep the stores govt owned.

Home made wine to be allowed at weddings etc.

Although I can appreciate the importance of the revenue generated by liquor sales in SK, if I have an opportunity to purchase liquor in another jurisdiction at cheaper prices, I always do. I am looking forward to more privatization of liquor sales in SK as well as increased product selection that privatization and competition will bring. I would definitely support liquor sales in grocery stores.

Currently. Government run liquor stores are putting revenue back into the economy, directly (employment with good salaries) or indirectly (grants and programs). Much long-term revenue will be lost if the government-run process is turned over to the private sector. I am against this privatization!

There are huge social costs involved for some people who consume liquor...and not just the obvious ones. Social dysfunction among young people really concerns me. Drinking and driving. Family breakdown. I think that the leaders of the province should LEAD...and sometimes that means not giving in to popularity polls! As a parent, I limited and sometimes blocked my children's access to those things that I knew to be harmful...that is family leadership. When they fussed about it being "unfair" and against their so called rights, I said too bad. Government should do likewise...sometimes the popular opinion comes from those with the loudest and sometimes least informed and educated voices. I believe that the government should control this substance...sale, hours, etc. And I believe that money from sales should be directly spent on paying for the damage that overuse and misuse of alcohol causes. I would extend this to other substances such as tobacco, which I feel could be sold in liquor stores where only those old enough to purchase it them have access. To the Wall government: Man up! What's next...lot of people think they should be allowed to drive 150 mph because they think it's fun.

Government doesn't have to build building to house a liquor store. They can rent space in malls and strip malls like they already do. Just a poor excuse for government part of argument.

continue with profitable government stores. I don't like to shop for liquor in a grocery store.

Having lived in five provinces and one territory as well as in Europe while working with the Federal government, it is obvious to me that SK and MB have some of the most restrictive liquor laws on the books. I currently own a house in Saskatchewan and

am a contract worker in Europe. Despite the wide-spread availability of alcohol in grocery stores, gas stations, liquor outlets, department stores, etc..., I rarely encounter someone who has over indulged. The attitude here is more liberal with respect to alcohol and not surprisingly, society adapts. I believe that SK should also liberalize their alcohol policies and to stop treating the (restricted) sale of alcohol as a social responsibility and revenue generator.
The sale of liquour needs to be strongly regulated due to a whole raft of problems. Including mainly irresponsible use of alcohol. If we increase avaialbility of alcohol through the retail system, these problems will increase leading to an increased cost in polcicing, crime and on the medical system.
When I buy a bottle of wine why would I want a private store to get the profits. Keep using the revenue for Health, Education, social programs.
Keep the currant system
A public & private model would be better suited as long as it is equal and not disproportionate. If it's all placed in private hands then the government better come up with a rock solid plan on health care & social programs that help our residents (eg. the homeless and people struggling with addictions as cheaper prices will lead to higher alcohol consumption on that demographic, just look at the people already busking outside government owned liquor stores begging for liquor cash - yes there will be greater revenues here but there will also be higher expenditures in a different branch of gov't)
We need a much better system for getting local products into the store.
While I would LOVE more selection of ciders, I'm nervous about the privatization of any crown. The money our stores make are so important in supporting other social services. Maybe the funding connection should be made more clear; let people know what type of programs and services they're supporting by shopping at a government owned business.
I want a better selection of products, and I don't care at all how that happens. Better selection in a government store? Great -- I'm on board with that. It doesn't have anything to do with whether or not more private locations are open. However, if liquor could be purchased at in grocery stores, I would LOVE THAT. There are so many liqueurs I would like to try that we can't get in Saskatchewan. Aperol is one of them!!!
Cost of liquor is to high . A hundred percent markup by the government is outragous. No other company can do that when dealing with government contracts .
The current system is in the dark ages. Why can't I buy liquor at the same place I buy my groceries ?
Please keep revenue generated from liquor sales kept in this province and have it applied to our Roads, Schools and Infrastructure. If we go to a private system, this will harm the revenue that our province intakes and take away many good jobs from outstanding employees.
I would like to see alcohol sales in grocery sales. I buy wine and dislike having to run into other stores to buy it. I would like to see it available in grocery stores, particularly co-ops as that is where I shop.
I think that the government should continue to operate existing liquor stores but should be made more available at more locations and at longer hours of operation the funds it generates should than grow exponentially hopefully allowing the provincial government to remove its provincial sales tax .
The current system is ok, sometimes the selection in locations is poor. More info on products and canadaian content is appreciated. Thanks
We need the government to continue to collect taxes on alcohol. legalize pot too and sell it in a LB.
My desire is for improved convenience. My preference is to reduce the amount of shopping stops I meke. For example if I purchase groceries I would like to purchase liquor at the same tiem - through the same till, if i have to leave the building to go to another location i could care less if the person selling to me is gov't or not. I want fewer stops.
I think this survey is incredibly biased. I disagree with the opening of private full service liquor stores. Most of the questions were bating people to agree to something that has not been decided...the typical " " that this government portrays.
no comment
Leave the retail liquor process the way it is!
We are not Alberta or British Columbia - we are Saskatchewan. The government of Saskatchewan should continue to operate and open more government owned liquor stores to ensure that the proceeds can continue to be put back into government run entities and stay in the province. Prices may drop slightly due to increased competition but revenue for the government will fall sharply. The advantages do not outweigh disadvantages for switching from public to private corporations. Don't fix something if it isn't broken.

why should Government have a million dollar store in a town of a 1000 people, only Government could justify this
Sask public liquor store provide good paying jobs instead of minimum wage poverty jobs with no benefits crappy hours, its not good for our communities or families, this should be the focus and not about saving a few bucks on a box beer. private outlets will create more minimum wage jobs with no benefits. we need more living wage jobs thatll support families. People used to be able to make a living at grocery stores but sadly corporate greed has taken over and now all these jobs are poverty wage jobs with garbage benefits. No wonder employers cant get enough employees and need TFW to fill the gap. I hate seeing Sask race to the bottom. Its a shame
More franchise stores would allow small business in rural Saskatchewan to expand their business lines and help them stay open. They also create jobs for part time employees which in rural Sask. helps stay at home parents.
While I am strongly against maintaining the current policy of setting floor prices for alcohol, I am in favour of at least maintaining the current revenue from alcohol sales. I think this can be done as the current system disuades consumers from purchasing product. Our levels of consumption are so far below the national average that a small increase due to reduced pricing would not affect our social fabric and would maintain government revenue.
The government must not lose their revenue from Liquor Sales during this time of low oil prices! I don't want to see full privatization of Sask Liquor Stores!
Privatize, privatize, privatize. End prohibition once and for all, the government should NOT be in the retail business, at all.
I lived in Edmonton when Alberta privatized. Liquor stores opened up everywhere it seemed. Alcohol abus and panhandling, grew - and grew ugly. If privatized - PLEASE limit number of places one can buy alocohol within a certain area.
I think there should be private stores and less taxes on liquor. At less 30% less tax.
The gov't run and staffed stores suit my needs. Cost to consumer will not decrease at private due to tax and we need the tax revenue and the well paid gov't jobs contribute to the community. Privatization for the sake of political ideology is pointless
fully private retail
I am a Bar manager and one of Saskatchewans few certified sommeliers. I have just recently moved back to Sask from Ontario. As a consumer and as a bar manager that purchases alcohol for my business I find the current selection and availability of products in the province very frustrating if not embarrassing. I also find the pricing on the most part to be higher in sask, which encourages stocking up on out of province trips. I believe more competition and selection will lead to more reasonable pricing. Currently it is very hard to run a bar when half of your items are "special order" which requires more effort and uncertainty of availability and delivery.
In my opinion the current system of government run liquor stores is functioning well and provides good value for the consumers and tax-payers of Saskatchewan. The revenues from liquor stores pay dividends to all residents of the province through the government programs which these funds support. It would be a shame for these profits to be shifted into the private sector. Furthermore, the jobs which are provided by the SLGA are presumably higher paying allowing workers to support a higher standard of living for their families and providing a higher taxable income for the province. I STRONGLY disagree with the implementation of a private system which may offer lower prices at the expense of worker salaries. I do not believe that we should move towards a system such as Alberta with a larger role for the private sector. I lived in Calgary for a 12 month period in 2012-13 in close proximity to 3 private liquor stores which were highly variable in their quality: one of the stores was a very high end boutique wine outlet, one offered general liquor sales and was smaller, but of similar quality to the current government run stores in Saskatchewan and the third was very tiny, cheap and somewhat dingy. I did not find that this higher density of liquor stores did not improve my quality of life as a consumer (I do drink regularly at home) but certainly increased the visibility of alcohol in the community. With all of the social problems linked to alcohol, I strongly believe that the visibility of alcohol in our communities should NOT be increased. While changing the structure of liquor stores in the province may offer some benefits to consumers (perhaps increased selection, lower prices and more stores with increased hours), these benefits are more than offset by the downsides (decreased government revenues from retail sales, lower paying jobs vs. careers, greater availability of alcohol in the community and perhaps a higher profile for products with social costs). In summary, there is no perfect system and our current system certainly has flaws, however the current system serves our province well and achieves a good balance between the social costs/benefits of alcohol sales and consumer demands.
I think how it is right now is just fine. I value the service I receive in SLGA stores, and support the workers in what can be a difficult job. The province benefits for liquor sales and I think it is extremely short-sighted to consider removing that revenue. Look at oil. Can we afford to loose a revenue stream when other resources are not reliable?
Keep liquor retailing as it is.
I believe the Sask.government should retain control over where and how liquor is sold. Privatized liquor stores do no-one any

good except a few "fat cat" business people.
I believe the free market is the way this needs to pan out. The fact that i find it easier to get beer from around the world than some of the great beers made here in the province is just plain wrong.
We should be encouraging foreign companies to recognize saskatchewan as a place which appreciates fine products, and enable consumers to buy to those products, rather than just making do with what the government has chosen for us!!
I would like to see the Government get rid of the min price requirement and I do not like the high taxation on off sale alcohol. Right now the private or public sales will do little to give public a better deal and Alberta makes a profit yet they are far cheaper than we are so I would like the Government to model what they are doing and give consumers a break.
Any profits from liquor should be be direct to addictions, policing and education.
If the result of this process, does result in the sale of the government ownership in the liquor retailing business, then I see two options 1) the current employees be given the first option to purchase the stores 2) the more forward thinking option would be to give the liquor retailing business to the people who own it, the people of Saskatchewan. This can be done by issuing shares to each person, the number of shares a person would get would depend on the the number of years a person has lived in the province, example a 70 year old person would get 70 shares will a 19 year old person would get 19 shares. A person who only has lived in the province for two years would get 2 shares. The value of each share would depend on the number of shares divided into the value of the provincial owned stores. After a two year waiting period, these shares could be sold on the open market.
The current system of SLGA operated retail stores as the base supply is profitable, offers good employment opportunities that attracts professional and career-minded workers. I do not want to lose the government run stores, nor the province to lose the profits.
I think it's important to keep liquor sales public. The revenue goes back to the GRF, supporting our province. The staff earn a livable wage with full benefits. Private companies would continue to provide money to government through taxation, but not through the GRF - a huge reduction in income for our province. Private companies also wouldn't take care of their employees. Better paid employees help create a better economy.
Better to have a business model to match Alberta which will support buying at home rather than the entire profits from lost sales going out of province.
I believe in free enterprise and let the market decide on locations and sales.
The government doesn't invest in bricks and mortar building liquor stores, they lease the buildings. Kind of misleading, isn't it?
SaskLiquor does a great job. Great staff and shopping experience. I would love more variety though.
There are too many alcohol related issues in our province as it is. I worry about increased availability, people thinking of drinking alcohol as just another beverage without awareness or consideration for the effects when they drive, recreate, model for their children and what happens in family homes. This is a decision for very serious social consideration.
All privatization will do is increase the price so the private retailer can make more $$ and staff will have a wage that you can't live off of. Read up on what happened in Alberta.
I would like to be able to purchase Beer/Wine from convenience stores,gas stations, etc as one can do in the US.
When a person standing at a till serving you liquor makes more money then someone standing at a till working at Walmart that is a sad day for Saskatchewan there wages at the liquor stores are why to HIGH!!!!
Hours of operation and lack of products for purchase of the non-alcoholic variety at government stores are my biggest complaints.
I feel that Saskatchewan should maintain the the government role. The profits from Liquor should be used to help fund social programs.
Given the fact that the provincial budget has only a razor thin surplus, it would be a very bad decision to eliminate a sector that generates millions of dollars for the provincial economy. Liquor retailing should remain as it is, generating income for the province. Of the options being considered by the government, I believe an expanded government retail system would be best.
I think it high that Saskatchewan step into the 21th century, mind you in the last 6yrs we have been making small steps. Keep the wheel rolling forward.
The current system is just fine.
Govt doing a good job of regulating and retailing alcohol now. There are plenty of places to buy beer and spirits now. Don't need any new stores.

Sell off the liquor stores and keep criminal enforcement. And, sell off SGI Sask Government Insurance.
Any time the private sector is involved employee wages and benefits suffer drastically ... the rich get richer and the rest of us suffer. As for getting a good price for Saskatchewan owned assets ... not under a CONServative government - they'd ensure their friends and supports got the assets at fire sale prices. The Sask Party is the old Convervative party, so who in their right mind would support the decisions of a group that left this province on the verge of bankruptsy with a 15 billion dollar debt??? These are politicians not only with a US mentality, but also with a strong bond to the 'nice' rich folks who 'really care' about the rest of us. Yes, these are the 'nice folks' who care only about themselves.
Stop the race to the bottom, please. Keep a few good-paying jobs with benefits and pension for the people of Saskatchewan; you know that private liquor stores will offer none of these to their employees.
I don't feel there is any need to change to private liquor stores. The only experience I had purchasing liquor in Alberta was an extreme turn-off. The store was a disgusting hovel of a place: dark and poorly laid out, with a loose carpet laid over a broken concrete floor. This is not a pleasant shopping trip, even for Demon Rum!
We should retain government-operated liquor stores. I've been to private stores in Alberta. Their prices are in general no better than those in Saskatchewan.
I don't believe that there would be any more issues with underage access to alcohol with private stores. The government should not be in retail business.
A flat rate or a sliding scale or a maximum cap on alcohol mark ups would be a preferred option. If a study on the correlation between alcohol retail value and societal issues caused by alcohol consumption was performed, I would suspect that you would find that there probably is a much stronger association with product with an already low value versus expensive bottles of scotch/wine/craft beer. Increase the relative mark up on types of alcohol associated with abuse and high consumption to compensate for a lower mark up on more premium products that are less likely to be over-consumed and drank responsibly. A combination of government stores and private retailers catering to the premium market (Willow Park) would be the ideal solution. I do not think the government should be gun-ho about cutting stable secure employment that pays a living wage to Saskatchewan residents that is self-funded through liquor profits. If fat needs to be trimmed, start at the top and look for efficiencies in management structure and overhead. Incentivise retirements for top wage tier employees or out-of-scope workers with excessive compensation to encourage increased youth employment.
Alcohol is by far the most destructive and dangerous drug in our society. Any move by the government to increase access or reduce prices for private profit is not in the public interest. The government run model provides decent pay and benefits to employees while the private stores will increase profits by reducing wages to workers, I see no benefit to the public in this regard.
I think if you can create revenue off of it the government should keep it as every bit helps!
I don not like the advertising that the private liquor stores are doing. We get brochures with the newspaper. I have teenagers and I don't think they need to be reading about the latest products.
Reducing government role could open up for more abuse of alchol and hit government's pocket more. I do not mind paying a little higher than what they pay in Alberta since it creates good paying job in our province and the surplus goes to treasury board for public use.
some government liquor store staff are "less than helpful or interested in being of service", while others are quite helpful...why does that exist??
Price is by far the most important factor to me. If fully private liquor retailing results in increased costs to the consumer, I don't want it...if it reduces costs, then I do. If costs are the same or roughly the same, why waste time with changes to legislation? My preference in the last scenario is that government focuses their efforts on more important issues.
I had lived in AB prior to moving to Saskatchewan. Besides the extremely highly inflated prices I find here, the choice is lacking. If I want to purchase a certain wine for example I have to purchase an entire case in order for the SLGA to even contemplate ordering it for me!!! I really dont think that the price of any bottle of liquor should decide the tax associated with it.
Once you let go; You won't get it back without a revolution.
The profits from sales of liquor in Sk. through the Liquor board go to support other public services, so they ought to continue to do so!!!
Liquor is a harmful product and the cause of much domestic and neighbourhood violence. Don't make it any easier to get liquor than it is now

Private liquor stores in Alberta have been a disaster - many are poorly run, overpriced, and have negative impacts on their neighbourhoods.
Government should maintain all stores as they will need the extra revenue due to the falling oil prices
The current system strikes a fairly good balance between access to alcohol and advancing social objectives. It also provides well paying jobs for those employed there.
we need more American beer up here.
i have also shopped ar Government owned/operated liquor stores and DO reccomend them to others. in some rural communities, it only makes sense to francise out the liquor stores. there is a myth that private stores give better pricing and service - this is not true. one thing I do not see addressed in the survey is permits for special events.
Purchasing Liqour is not a necessity of life like groceries, I do not think that we need a system where one retailer tries to gain market share by cutting prices, like I have seen in other jurisdictions.
The government should not be in competition with the private sector. We are not socialists. The government should be providing services like health care and public safety. Not over taxing things that they see as harmful. Have strong laws for abuse and criminal activity but don't punish law abiding citizens.
Private is never cheaper in the long run!
I feel that it is very important to keep liquor retailing in Sask. under the direction of the provincial government. Not only did liquor privatization result in decreased revenue in Alberta, it increased social costs such as health care, welfare, policing, corrections, etc. Families count on the fair wages and benefits that SLGA employees are given and that is extremly important.
The Saskatchewan Government should not sell off its liquor stores. Having one or two specialty stores in the major centers like we do is ok. DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE LIQUOR STORES as the revenues and net earnings come back to the people of Saskatchewan.
I think we have a great system in place. It is not a bad thing to have employees with decent wages, benefits and pensions
The government has no role to play in the retailing of tobacco, alcohol or any other regulated substance. . Governments role is to regulate and monitor. No need to have high paid union jobs to do the work that could be done in many cases by special needs people.
Absolutely disagree with this survey. it is worded in a way that regardless of the answer given support is given to private hand over. Privatization has destroyed every are where it has happened. Our highways are now crap and the few we have left in the hands of the department is so ham stringed by budget limits they are impossible to maintain. Private companies see all the profit while our highways workers get to face all the public frustration. Privitization results in higher prices in every case. If the manufacturer takes their cut, then the government takes their cut and the private sector is added to take their cut on top of that. It's going to cost more period!!! This is nothing more than the government forcing the destruction of Sask infrastructure for the benefit of profiteering private enterprise again. It is morally wrong to keep twisting reality to force privatization. Conservative minded people privatized the highways. Show one single way that situation improved if you take all the highways we used to have into account instead of the handful that are left. Saskatchewan has it's own oil and it has it's own gravel yet the private sector robs the taxpayer to the point that it costs more to maintain roads here than ares of this country that have to buy the resources. Taxpayers are being scammed by private industry with the complete knowledge and support of the government. Privatization in every way is wrong. It consists of destroying or giving away taxpayer interests and forced investment to private corporations. A Few profit big time thanks to the loss by everyone else and quality falls away for good.
I do not approve of any privatization scheme!
Make improvements to government stores. Expand their hours if that is needed. Do this first. Not run down existing stores so people complain or think we need other choices. Why have sobeys make money the government should be making instead.
The Prov.Govt. should not be in the business of running liquor board retail operations that should be done by the private sector, like what is currently happening in Saskatoon and Regina.
The Government stores would work just fine for me if there were to do some of the things that the private stores are doing. Sales, fliers to inform, and tasting sessions to learn about other drinks that I may enjoy. The private stores do a better job of wanting my money rather than just providing a place for me to get booze.
i would like to be able to buy products from local producers that have been taken off the market due to government regulations
I am constantly frustrated when shopping at Saskatchewan Liquor stores that tell me they are unable to order in items that I would be able to purchase in other provinces. Private retail would have a wider ability to access outside suppliers and satisfy customers.

Time to move toward a model of less regulation and more options for the consumer.
I support the government run stores and some private stores such as small town Co-op stores that otherwise might not be viable businesses . Government jobs with unionized workers ensure a fair wage is paid out and that money finds its way back in to the local economies . What I am dead set against is letting is letting some who has to be here getting an easy ride running his own sales outlet .
In the background info, it would've been helpful to read about research on the impacts of different types of alcohol regulation. I would hope that the government is looking into that type of research in order to inform the decision-making process. My support of private liquor stores is contingent on the continuation of minimum prices and the regulation of the concentration of liquor stores within neighbourhoods. This view is due to the social harms associated with lower prices and greater accessibility of alcohol.
Honestly - tired of stocking up when I'm in Alberta or abroad. It's time to grown up as a province and give the people what they want within reason, as other Canadian jurisdictions have done.
Over the last couple of years the selection at stores has vastly improved improving the overall experience of the stores. Though the system for custom ordering as an individual is total crap. I mean who wants to just fire their visa number over a basic e-mail. I mean who the hell knows where that goes these days and is sure screams of hey don't do this you are about to have your identity stolen. I also really think that the private stores have pushed for the better select though the gov't stores should be doing this on their own!
I support gradual devolution of liquor sales to the private sector. Let's privatize and let government focus on regulation.
Managed Transition to Fully Private Retail is my choice. No need to have an SGEU member selling this category of product, but want enough regulation for safe sales, and govt revenue to be maintained...
Do not privatize. There is nothing wrong with the current system.
I believe that the government should go to a flat rate taxon liquor at the same rate as Alberta.
Continue status quo with government run liquor stores and concentrate your efforts on more important matters at hand like the avaibility of senior care homes in small town Sask where the majority of pioneers in this province live. Thank you in advance for reading my thoughts.
I would support a combination of public and private liquor stores and expand private stores where there is a gap in availability. I definitely support expanding selection and incorporating more craft and micro-brewery offerings. I do not believe the rhetoric about the province losing precious financial resources by having the additional private liquor stores.
Government monies could be better spent supporting the taxpayer more and the union employees less. Seems to work well in Alta and Quebec!
Govt steals business from public. Is that the business of Gov't? Cheap alcohol is nonsense compared to cheap food. Health risks on poor diet at any age. Outraged in pay of Gov't employees and specially that of CEO's. Been to the states where alcohol is sold in grocery stores. That is very convenient.
Private stores in Medicine Hat are for the most part more expensive than sask liquor stores. The only place cheaper is Costco or Super Store. So price wise private stores in Med Hat are more expensive than Sask owned liquor stores.
Employees of Government liquor stores have a 'decent' salary - which I believe all working people should have. In turn, they pay higher taxes, contribute to charities, spend more in the economy. I am against sending Saskatchewan workers into poverty while rich owners of private liquor sales take all the profit.
Saying that it will be cheaper to buy if it is private stores Look at Alberta On the regular stuff it sure is not, And all this designer brands if the want it they should have to pay for it.
Make it easier for local micro-breweries to sell their products utilizing the existing outlets. Allow grocery stores to sell liquor as long as the Sask Government is collecting the same amount of taxes.
I like the stand alone private store, such as Sobey's in Saskatoon. I do not want to see liquor sales within grocery stores, except for rural franchisers, which help a small business. Don't want to see a liquor store on every street corner like USA either.
Do not limit the number of licenses. You would just introduce a vested interest group who would bid up the price of those licenses. Liquor should be sold in grocery stores, in the aisles, like any other product.

Selling and distributing liquor is not creating value in the economy. This should be done by lower cost private retailers. Minimum pricing and tax revenue can be maintained as it has in Alberta.
Being able to order from other provinces
Lets join the rest of the world and have liquor sales in grocery stores!
A recent study at the University of Alberta indicated that the prices of commonly bought liquor products (beer, wine and spirits, were actually higher in provinces where private liquor stores were the norm. If something is working...leave it alone.
I truly support kiosks located in grocery stores but would like to see them operated by the SLGA employees. I also know that the public stores create huge revenue that is used for health, education etc etc. lets keep Saskatchewan strong and keep people making a living wage which in turn is viable money to be spent in our province and not money by private companies that line only their pockets and create only minimum wage jobs that people cannot survive on in this province I used to be proud to call home.
I lived in BC for 6 years before returning to SK. BC liquor stores in general are excellent, and I think the public stores there do a better job of stocking and marketing BC product than our stores do at marketing SK product. Furthermore... and this is a very minor point and I think this is something anyone who has ever gotten used to BC liquor stores can attest to, is that the white plastic shopping bags they place your purchases into at the til are awesome: strong, stretchy, and indestructible. If we were to move to a private system that Alberta has (which I hope we don't), is this: I hope the government here would have the good sense to limit how many liquor retailers you can have in a given area. Driving around some of the cities of Alberta, it gets a bit nauseating at times with all the "cold beer and wine" signage. It would not be a pleasant place to live if you were a recovering alcoholic.
i like the choices we have now to purchase alcohol in rural sask.
All this government is about is crony capitalism. If liquor board stores are privatized, they will just sell the franchises to their buddies from Alberta. This is not about a more competitive market, this about the govt. helping their friends and family.
I'm for the government not continuing to lose money by keeping non-profitable stores in operation. But I'm Leary about all private liquor stores and not regulating a price minimum. I'd hate to see not putting any money into regulating liquor and later having a problem with substance abuse due to abundance of cheap alcohol and easy access. Then the "burden" will shift to our already stretched out health care system.
As pro business gov't you believe in "You have to spend money to make money?" Well quit running down the SLGA stores and your coffers will be well rewarded. I do not approve of you giving the liquor revenue to govt friends. Keep it PUBLIC and profitable!! Everyone benefits
Need to feature and stock local products (ie Saskatchewan spirits and wine). But at competitive prices to encourage purchase. Also, need to axe the idiotic rules about cross border (provincial) shipment of Canadian products. We should be able to see and purchase more Canadian product. And a better system to economically order in/shipments of product from outside canada (ie wine). I like the government stores. They are consistent, organized, useful and the best system. Thanks
Trying to regulate the price of alcohol in an effort to stop people from drinking excessively has caused the addicts to turn to other substances, thereby increasing risks associated with iv drug use. I would rather my be drunk, instead of h.i.v/aids and Hep c contagious. The lesser of two evils. In this case, one can be taxed at a reasonable rate, and the other should be smash out with an awesome force. Full-privatization makes sense: more jobs, more income tax, less government employees and government buildings = less expenditures And finally, the faster money moves through an economy, the better off every one else will be.
Keep all liquor stores gov't owned and operated. And end the policy of new stores being private...there's no reason they shouldn't be publicly owned and operated since the public has to foot the cost of addressing alcohol related problems.
The government doesn't sell cigarettes or operate brothels. They should not sell alcohol either. Taxes are fine.
If me paying a dollar or two extra for a monthly purchase of a bottle means somebody makes a liveable wage and can afford to go on a vacation. I want the government to be able to control social harm.
Privatize liquor sales
The government needs to stop trying to privatize every thing as we are losing money to keep programs running And healthcare services, roads, infrastructure, are getting cut due to lack of money's. Do not privatize liquor, there will also be an increase of

abuse and accidents due to the easier assesibilty to the liquid.
Any action that lessens the stranglehold that unions have on this province are positive.
The cost of alcohol in Saskatchewan is exceedingly high when compared, in particular to Alberta, but also Ontario and Manitoba. The mindset that increasing the cost of alcohol (or cigarettes for that matter) to dissuade abuse, or even use, is (presumably) misguided good intentions implemented on unfounded logic of a nanny state who has determined they know better than the people they represent. All this situation creates is a greater outflow of personal funds, leading to poverty and additional social issues, e.g. unable to purchase food, clothing for children, etc. An addict will feed their addiction, regardless. Pricing the "sins" in a manner to reduce use only diverts abusers to other avenues to achieve their ends, most notably increased risk lifestyles. The best outcome in this scenario, it is the addict who suffers, at worst it is the children of the addict who suffer. For pondering, when looking through the lens of an addict, how often does the purchase of a pack of cigarettes, or a case of beer, outweigh the need to buy pablum...
Please do not privatize liquor stores. Upgrade the current stores with chillers. Take out cheap liquor. Keep liquor stores provincially operated.
Anything that sheds pensions and benefits from the government is a good thing.
I have always had great service in government store from people who know about the products I seek. I do not want to see changes in government liquor stores Saskatchewan needs quality jobs and Saskatchewan needs liquor profits to operate. Why do I never hear how the current government intends to replace these lost revenues, should all liquor store be privatized?
given the price point is largely fixed or influenced by govt , private retailers have their hands largely tied in being able to offer customers "deals". Seems this is all about retailing when the real conversation should be about the cost structure.
I have noted a rather stark difference in customer service between private and gov't owned liquor stores. I have always received exceptional service at our privately operated stores. However, my husband and I have seen staff behavior at the gov't operated facilities that has made us wonder why we would choose to support govt facilities... From workers complaining about having to stock a fridge, to openly complaining about their job and pay. The sense of entitlement that we have witnessed firsthand from the govt facility employees boggles the mind. My name is and you may follow up with me at if you would like further info on these experiences.
I would like to see the liquor stores have some stuff like Sloe Gin made be Haymans because if soak golden resins in the Sloe Gin it helps the people that have arthritis I do it and it has help me. that way you do not have to go out of province to get the Sloe Gin.i have ask at the government stores and the private liquor store and there would stock it if there could get it from the liquor commission but there can not, so please start stocking this product.
Liquor consumption to me is a bit of a luxury, not a daily occurrance. So, while i like the choices in a nice big private liquor store i really am not interested in offsale establishments or picking up a 2 4 to drink on the road. Please dont ever sell liquor and gas together, or allow that someones voucher for a supermarket can be used for booze.
1. you don't have to be an expert to sell people stuff they want 2. pricing and new item availability is what helps people find new products, also word of mouth 3. Cold beer in a convenience, grocery or drug store = good.
More product selection please, less restrictions on importing, make direct to retailer/licensee purchasing an option to improve freshness & selection. Flat tax system, and incentives for breweries/distillers.
The government should look at the kind of jobs that are generated by private retailers. More often than not we have some in a L.B.S. that it's a middle class wage earner relaxed with a lower class work. Replacing middle class jobs with more lower class ones is not good government not is it good for the economy. Use part of you profits to grow the the L.B.S.'s and build on success. Free market is a word that sounds good but the reality is that unless we regulate and be mindful of the greed and selfishness of the average person, we will simply open more people up to be exploited. Build hope. Alcohol is not a necessity.
no.
Good jobs with good pensions for working people are far more important than private sector profits.
It's time to move into the 21st century, and move away from government owned businesses that force an increase in product price.
My biggest concern with liqour sales in Saskatchewan is the lack of selection. I can go to Alberta and buy many different types of liqour that are hard to find here or impossible to get because of the regulations.
I like the way liquor is currently sold in SK. I believe the government revenues from this sector are significant and have an impact on the government's ability to invest in other services (health care , schools ...) To help the government stores be more efficient, I think private liquor stores or franchise will provide market balance and competition which drive efficiency. I believe

there should be a minimum set price for alcohol because it is a substance that can be easily abused otherwise and strain many other services such as health care and social assistance. Take care of SK, thanks

I have shopped often at private liquor stores in Alberta. I find the prices significantly higher on the products I usually purchase (wine), sometimes as much as five dollars. I strongly support keeping the status quo on liquor retailing in Saskatchewan. Thanks!

Alcohol is a poison. It is linked to many social ills including many chronic diseases like cancer and injuries from motor vehicle collisions. We should be working to keep alcohol consumption in check instead of providing more outlets in which people can purchase. If you look up the World Health Organizations Alcohol and inequities:

Guidance for addressing inequities

in alcohol-related harm there are lots of good recommendations for policy options regarding alcohol use.

I have experience shopping in the Alberta system. It is NOT the consumer friendly experience some would have us believe. While you can occassionally find good deals in certain outlets, product selection and customer service in individual stores is far inferior to what we find in the average Saskatchewan retail outlet. Additionally, I find the average regular product pricing to be slightly HIGHER than what I find in our own stores today.

If Alberta's Model is the option the Government of Saskatchewan is proposing, count me out!

I like the option of the expanded Private Retail System but why wouldn't the government spend some money on operating and capital investments in the stores that would remain open. Wouldn't it be beneficial to improve the appearance and service at these stores to improve the customer experience and compete with the private liquor stores? If all future operational and capital costs are deferred (walk in coolers, training on customer service and product knowledge, etc), it seems like the government ran stores are set up to fail against the private liquor stores. Additionally, allow government stores to advertise so they can compete on a level paying field with private liquor stores.

I prefer the government operated liquor stores in Saskatchewan, the staff are very knowledgeable and I find the pricing and availability to be very fair. The one thing I would like to see from Private retailers is not what I have seen so far. I do not want to see liquor sales to be cheaper and more convenient, and I thoroughly believe that general alcohol sales should be run solely through government stores. What I would like to see from private stores is a more specialized selection and higher quality products; such as rare/specialty wines and import alcohols. I believe private liquor stores should be limited to niche markets.

Keep the LB stores, allow for private competition.

I REFUSE to go to a private liquor store. I have never met a more dedicated buch of employees that work extemly hard for you and you just want to throw them out to pasture.Whats next; the health system?

Government should also ease the rules to encourage local beer/spirit production and encourage sales of locally produced products through pricing. ie Craft brewing/microbrewery/brewpubs.

Most Sk Government Liquor Stores are very fancy and cost a lot to build. As a rule government labour costs are higher than the private sector, so there should be more profit for the private retailer.

Gov't needs to relax/change the laws/rules for local craftbeer and spirit production and sales to encourage the advancement of local brewers/ entrepreneurs.

SLGA employees are paid too much for what they do. I would like to see a wage/benefit comparison between the public and private retail liquor vendors.

T feel that we should keep our liquor stores as they support the government coffers. I think that they should be more marketable and updated. Sometimes you have to spend some money to make some money.

I really enjoy the Liquor Stores that are in Saskatchewan now, I would hope that people understand that if the privatization goes through that Liquor will not be cheap like Alberta, I believe Brad Wall is making everyone think that Liquor will be cheaper like Alberta which is not the case. KEEP LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC!!!!!!!!

Wall should worry about the economy and saving oil revenue not with his agenda to gut the public service.

I don't mind that I have to pay more in Sask. for liquor, because I know it is going to good programs in the community- I appreciate and do brag when we are in other countries that lack some of the amenities that we have. The one thing that could be improved though is the selection of beer available. I finally see the craft beer isle growing but I would like to see more improvement. Also I'd like to see the local people producing good beer, wine and hard liquor flourish and the government liquor stores promoting them more, maybe just more prominence in a store would be good. Everyone loves local, it is super trendy, so I think government should support the success of those companies as much as they can, by whatever means possible.

But Ièd also like to see more selection of beers from other places too...or at least have the opportunity to special order them. Each time I email SLGA to ask if they can ship something in, it is usually not available.

I am disturbed by the lack of minorities working at slga liquor stores.
Status Quo
With a low population our province enjoys many benefits due to the whole population funding our assets such as heating and power sources. With private ownership we would never have been able to develop the whole province --- we need to support provincial assets thru' crowns and agencies such as the gov't liquor stores. Profits are poured back into local/Sask. communities rather being taken anywhere (most likely out of province).
Public stores are a safe haven for people with disabilities to work protected, unlike being forced to quit in the private sector.
It is misleading to imply that building and maintaining liquor stores is taking money away from other priorities since the liquor stores themselves are profitable. As a citizen who wants lower taxes, it makes more sense to me to provide decent paying jobs to employees who also pay taxes, as well as having a profitable government business. I do not think that wider selection of alcohol and easier availability of alcohol should be a priority of the provincial government. If someone is going to make money from the sale of alcohol it might as well be we the taxpayers.
We need to eliminate SLGA as the governing body that makes the decisions on which products to bring in, and which to ignore. We are 10+ years behind the craft beer seen (for example) as a result.
Stand alone retailers drive unnecessary costs. The U.S. has been selling liquor at grocery stores for a long time. This is convenient for shoppers and cost effective. Rural Coops and other grocery stores should be permitted to sell liquor. We have trusted the private sector to run bars and sell liquor by the glass responsibly but somehow can't trust them to sell by the bottle responsibly.
It's time to put a complete end to the control issues the Government has on Liquor. It is not the governments business on what social issues I mean might have with the cost of liquor.
Several studies as reported in the news show puplic stores have a geater financial benefit for the prov.
I believe that competition in the marketplace should dictate price and product selection. I have personally been frustrated when I know products are available elsewhere in Canada but can not get the SLGA to order without a rediculous amount of forms and time. The private stores in Saskatoon are a breath of fresh air. I look forward to more opening very soon.
Private Liquor stores work well in Alberta. The SGEU ads state the government will loose money if privatized ?? Same tax revenue and lower labor costs would increase government $$
We should be able to purchase alcohol in grocery stores like in the USA.
My most pressing concern is the Alberta model, of a liquor store on almost every corner. It is unsightly. Controlled placement of stores is a must, but placement must be proper. With the opening of Sobey's in Stonebridge, I now have 4 liquor stores within 5 min. driving distance of my house, more than enough. But outlying areas have only one. I do not want to see corner liquor stores popping up everywhere.
Not enough craft beer availability in the SLGA stores. Having private stores and competitive prices would eliminate lots of the cross border liquor purchases, both from alberta and US.
I strongly be leave our current system is out dated and in need of modernization. Not only for liquor store but for craft brewies and craft beer. It's pretty sad and pathetic how out dated our laws are and how long it has taken our government to even think about changing them!
Our liquor prices are so much higher than other provinces, I'd like to see the prices drop but keep the minimum drinking age at 19.
The government should not be involved in retail sales of any alcohol (beer, wine or spirits). The private sector is better equipped to meet the market demands in a more efficient manner. Gov. needs to focus on setting policy and priority.
LIQUOR RETAILING IN THIS PROVINCE REMAINS IN THE DARK AGES. PRICE, HOURS OF OPERATION, SLECTION, ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE PROBLEM AREAS WHEN IT COMES TO LIQUOR RETAILING IN THIS PROVINCE. I SPEND TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN THE USA AND HAVE ENCOUNTERED NO NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES WITH THEIR MARKETING SYSTEM. I ALSO VISIT ALBERTA ON A REGULAR BASIS AND PURCHASE MOST OF MY ALCOHOL IN THAT PROVINCE PRIMARILY DUE TO THE PRICE.
The tax on alcohol sales generates considerably, not just in Saskatchewan , but federally as well. Privatization, not only has the potential to compromise, quality as well as pricing, it also will put MORE unnecessary weight on taxpayers to make up for lost revenues.
Privatize. Save tax payers money. Or don't and cut wages and pensions....

Gov't should work to get out of the retail business and focus on taxing and regulating. Govt employees are not retail capable. They are drones for the most part, doing what they have always done. Paid too much for what they add. Stores should be consolidated and sold to operators who want to retail liquor and serve customers properly. The bit about this being unsafe is pure crap. .I want to be a customer, not a statistic, when I spend money on liquor. I get better service a t local gas bars than at the LBS stores.
Just leave them Government owned Brad Wall has spent and blown away the rainy day fund .. We need all the help one can generate to help seniors and health care QUIT PRIVITIZING ,, YOU pcERS HAVE RUINED OUR PROVINCE ENOUGH ..
privatize! Adopt Alberta model. Use a flat mark markup instead of the percentage based algorithm.
I live in Regina, please don't make any changes, I am happy the way things are. A Tax payer Regina Resident.
Greater beer and scotch choices are important
I believe that the private sector can do a better job of running a business than the public sector can.
I don't like the Alberta model. I am quite happy with our present model. Small towns only need one retailer and perhaps an off-sale. Young looking people should have ID.
Options 3 and 4
government should collect taxes, not selling liquor
There are many communities that already have liquor outlets in grocery stores, drug stores, insurance offices etc.
I think it is a good idea for the government to own stores, employ staff and take the profits. It also helps control prices when the private sector has to match prices with a government run organization. They write better contracts and find legal loop holes to ultimately increase prices. Almost every adult buys alcohol. Lets provide decent paying jobs and make some revenue/profit for our province. It's more stable than a natural resource.
To use an analogy, liquor is similar to oil, gas, potash etc.; the Crown owns them and will sell rights to extract and produce/process and market those natural resources. With resources, the Crown is not in the business of 'doing business' and it should be the same for liquor. My tax dollars should not be invested in brick and mortar when the private sector is more than willing to do that. With all due respect to those employed in Government stores: their job can be done by any 19 y/o (it's just a grocery store that sells liquor after all-how hard is it to stock shelves and use a cash register?). On the plus side the potential exists where private liquor stores would end up being an important work force entry level job (beats the hell out of asking if you'd "like fries with that?"). I'm certain the Government can make more money from liquor if it just took the Royalties and taxes and didn't have to spend money on overhead like staff, building capital and operation costs.
Aside from generally moving away from government stores, the government needs to change to liquor distribution model to support local craft brewers. The idea that product must be sent to an unrefrigerated warehouse before it can be sold to a retail store is rather ridiculous.
I can't imagine the government would give away profits that are currently being made (and support other programs) in order to give private business the money - instead of the public.
I think that the current system is working well. For example, I think the revenue from sales that went to public education about drinking during pregnancy and fetal alcohol syndrome were VERY important in changing public attitudes, also the drinking and driving campaigns. I do not believe that private sales would finance these and they would then be a cost to government. Another concern is the availability of alcohol to minors. Using tobacco as an example, it is obvious that private vendors are not as diligent as government employees because there are implications to their bottom line. As for price, I do not think cheap booze or easy access to it is a good thing for society.
The government should get out of buissnes of owning liquor stores.let the private sector do the owning.the money saved by not owning stores and paying people very high wages for selling liquor could be better spent in other areas such as health.The wages that are payed to liquor store employees far exceed what others are paid in the retail industry.
I like the retailing options the Gov't is considering and I don't think that status quo is on. I am a retired liquor store manager and I don't believe the Gov't has any need to be in the retail business of alcohol. I was an employee for 34 years and a manager for 25 of that. If you would like more of my thoughts I would be happy to share them.
I would rather spend my money at the government liquor board then spend it at a private store. this decision is about supporting the government workers and those jobs are important to me.
Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. I hope a decision is made in the short-term and action is taken.
While specialty stores might be ok, I don't see any point to privatizing the profit from liqour sales. Well, the point is to make a few

people rich, which inevitably makes the rest of us poorer.

The government has not done a major review of liquor retailing and distribution in Saskatchewan for decades apart from the recent regulatory review, which was a good start. Thank you for having the courage to open this dialogue to members of the public. In my estimation, liquor retailing is only one part of what needs to be reviewed. I also believe that the following needs to be reviewed: mark-up rates (which ultimately impacts price); a more thorough review of all of SK liquor regulations and policies, and their alignment to the SK Plan for Growth; a review about social responsibility that is fact based and aligns with the SK plan for growth and export expansion; policies that enable small micro producers (thank you for the recent announcement of this pending review) and further business development (opposed to policies that limit or hamper business); and looking at modernizing liquor retailing policies across all the channels (off sales, retail stores and franchise) that end the preferential treatment for different retail channels that seem to have been developed as one off's to fix the problem of the day, without a view of the long term impact. I believe that Government needs to remove themselves from retailing liquor. The other retail channels have proven beyond doubt (over decades (franchises and offsales; private stores more recently), that a paternalistic model of liquor retailing isn't necessary to ensure safe distribution of liquor. I don't consider liquor retailing part of Government's core business like social services, highways, healthcare, and education. Government can create an effective wholesale distribution model, while ensuring that there is a modern and effective regulatory framework in place to manage the distribution channel, much like what has been put in place for gaming through third parties like SGC, SIGA and bars and hotels for VLTS across SK. Although one can argue that there may be some efficiencies with the scale of distribution through the 75 stores and SLGA, one can also argue that infrastructure costs with old stores, profitable stores maintaining or offsetting less profitable stores, and maintaining a large workforce of unionized employees at high wages (for the retail sector) along with government pensions and benefits, this is not a business line that government needs to be in. If I were to choose a model for retailing, I would favour a move to a private model, with SLGA/government overseeing the distribution/wholesaling of liquor and regulation.

We were not aware that the people of saskatchewan had indicted that a change in the system was needed. Wasn't this just a propaganda campaign paid for by big grocery companies??? What I do see is that the large corporations are lobbying the government to de-regulate the environment thus making it suitable to set up shop and eventually run all the franchises out of business. This move will affect small town Saskatchewan especially the ones closer to larger centers. I believe that a status quo should be maintained.

Increase legal drinking age to 21 - too much abuse!!! Be very touch on those who are impaired while driving especially if they cause an accident, death, or are repeat offenders.

I believe this should have been privatised a long time ago, Alberta has no problem with this and still generate lots of money from the liquor tax to give to charities,etc... It will create jobs and bring in business for some smaller franchises.

I support:

-increased selection, retail locations, and hours

-social reference price

-maintain ad valorem markup, BUT remove discriminatory pricing between categories - beer, wine and spirits should be taxed at same rate

-(note the capped ad valorem costs are not listed; would prefer to see lower cap or decreasing rate on higher value purchases; more social harm is likely to come from the cheapest product, simply used as a drug delivery vehicle, rather than by high value 'splurge'/gourmet items).

-removal of preferential (flat) markup on beer

-SK should maintain current level of revenue relative to total sales (i.e. rather than maintain at least current absolute dollars (despite decreasing percentage), as was done in Alberta); this way the province captures any growth in revenue in this sector.

-additional revenues can be put towards more programs to deal with any social harms

-improve access to products from other provinces, including direct retail sales and shipping (access to boutique wineries/distilleries and craft brewers)

Note re: MADD stakeholder letter, page 4: they quote impairment-related crash deaths between Ontario (state retail) and Alberta (private retail) and imply a direct causal relationship; however the chart on page 2 shows New Brunswick (state retail) is _higher_ than Alberta. Their other points are reasonable, and might even suggest a regressive ad valorem system (higher percentage markup at lowest price points, to prevent greatest social harm, hospital visits, impaired driving, etc.). Most alcohol abusers aren't drinking $100 bottles of wine from boutique wineries.

Interesting that the survey doesn't ask any questions about which particular option (of the 5) is supported.

The options are also arbitrarily limiting, and a hybrid between some options would be preferred.

"Alberta-style fully private" shouldn't mean a switch to Alberta's flat markup.

I support retail sales in a grocery store, although I suppose that makes training of cashiers more difficult, and harder to enforce

age controls. At the least should allow liquor retail to be connected, but separated, with dedicated staff and cashiers. This would allow the development of specialty gourmet grocery stores, or prepared/takeaway foods, combined with specialty liquor retail in the same building; this is convenient for shoppers and also fits a natural model for the owners of such an operation ('gourmet food and drink').
When shopping in Alberta it is hard to find certain types of alcohol without going to multiple outlets to find who carries your product (specialty items) different stores carry different items.
Government Liquor stores should stay exactly like they are right now..
The people that staff the government liquor stores are arrogant.
I wouldn't want to see stores compete to sell the cheapest liquor, but it would be good to allow more private liquor retailing in dedicated stores or other retail stores.
Get Gov and unions out of Sask.
Level of taxation on booze is too high. improve availability of mail order wine and spirits
As a restaurateur, I appreciate the steps that have been taken by the government of Saskatchewan to cut a lot of the "Red Tape" for business owners. We still feel that their could be improvement in the areas of wine distribution.
Our local liquor store in Creighton, SK closes far too early on Saturdays. I think that liquor stores should be open until 9 pm on Fridays and Saturdays - they are missing out on significant revenue. Also grocery stores should be able to sell wine; it's a natural fit for the consumer.
keep govt run stores but do not increase any moreoutlets.we don't need more govt stores but keep what we have.
leave beverages to perveyers and concentrate on taking care of the citizens that elected you.
I agree with an expanded private liquor system.
I believe the BC model is fair to the public and private operators equally. selection, availability, price, responsibility, sustainability and profit.
Maintaining investment in this area will produce needed revenues for other important services.
Private system please
Need much more options in liquor store. Wine selection is more than disappointing.
Government should be investing in infrastructure and health care not large liquor stores. It is time to change the way government uses tax dollars.
Very happy with price, service and selection in my area. Called Regina office once with questions and found them very helpful. Moved from Alberta 6 years ago after growing up there and I like how liquor is managed here better. Much less seedy and destructive to society. Way too many liquor stores in Alberta.
Why are we always trying to change Saskatchewan into something that it is not, why is it that the people with the greatest discontent for this wonderful/ amazing province we live in have the greatest voice and if they are so discontent then why do they still live here? why does Saskatchewan have to be the same as every other province? One of the reasons we love this province we live in is because of its willingness not to be like every other province. Please leave my province alone and move if you don't like it here. Why is it that Mr. Wall wants to follow models of privitization that have proven themselves to not work in the provinces that they exisit? Please fight for Saskatchewan to stay the way it is!
Provision of alcohol is, and has always been, a government service. Like most government services it migrates to the large centres as an attractant to expedite growth in those centres. An easement of restriction in rural and remote areas might help keep some rural retail outlets viable. SLA pricing keeps our prices higher on higher quality products. A flat profit per unit price might lead to higher quality products being more popular and might actually lower abuse. It certainly shouldn't increase consumption or abuse.
Get rid of the SLGA wholesale and warehousing - make it virtual. Allow growler fills from anywhere that can sell beer off-sale. Allow kids into brewpubs.
I think there is no benefit to opening private stores if they are going to have to order their liquor through SLGA. If private stores have to order from SLGA, then let's just stick with the gov't stores.
The present system provides revenue for the province.Why Change it??? "if it ain't broke don't fix it!!!"
You make money at liquor stores don't give it away!

I strongly support the status quo. My experience with privatized liquor stores is that unless you live in a large urban area, there is little product choice and product is more expensive. The preservation of good paying jobs is also important. Replacing them with minimum wage, part time jobs is not good for any community.
I live close to the Alberta border. They have better selection (Ardbeg scotch for example) at a better price than I would be able to acquire it in Saskatchewan. Guess where I go to get Ardbeg? In Saskatchewan I have to buy a case of six (special order which can take weeks) for considerably more money per bottle. In Alberta I can buy one bottle for less. If the government is going to be the only source for liquor sales they need to match what other provinces are offering and for a similar price. Or they can get out of the way and let businesses serve the consumer demand.
I feel government should not be involved in any type of retailing. I feel private enterprise is best left to operate retail sales.
keep it as it is.
Leave it as is, do not privatize any more stores. We need decent paying jobs in Saskatchewan. Currently the profits from the public stores goes back into the schools, hospitals and roads. Why give up those profits to private? What advantage to the taxpayer is there? Less government revenue means raising personal taxes, no thanks!!
Keep it public
no
Keep the liquor stores and revenue earned from them govt owned,no to privatising liquor stores,Todays LP says the provincial government is losing 4.5 billion in royalties from the drop in the price of oil why would you want to give a constant source of revenue away to the private sector when we are losing huge amounts of revenue from the falling oil prices!!
profits from alcohol sales have help sask fund the many needs of this province. Why would we want to give this profit potential to others. We already have the infrastruture and regulations inplace for the current system.Utilize\adapt current operations if change is necessary
I hope that they maintain the cap on the number of offsale outlets in a certain population base or no one will be viable.
The system of selling liquor that we have now is the way I would like to see it continue in the future.
Please leave government owned liquor stores as they are! Thank you!
Leave our liquor stores and their employees alone. The province gets a good return on its investments. Perhaps you can expand liquor store inventories to make government stores even better.
I got a flyer from SGEU which inspired me to take this survey. What they forget to realize is that the gov already invests money into Liquor that could be invested elsewhere... they simply look at the revenue and think, "oh no, less money for the public!" They also neglect to realize that SLGA has a better ROI from warehousing than retailing... which warehousing is cheaper to maintain than retailing. Leave retailing up to businesses and entrepreneurs to create a competitive market in Saskatchewan that will open up more doors for employment and grow the economy.
I have shopped in Alberta and like the process they have. The only change I would make is to be able to purchase the liquor right in the grocery store, not in an outside building.
The government maintains enough control without having sole jurisdiction over selling of liquor. Open the gate, let private retailers sell as they choose; private/franchise can follow the rules.
Saskatchewan needs to keep and increase the number of living wage jobs in Saskatchewan Liquor Stores. Having enough living wage jobs in which families can afford to live and spend time raising their children. Tired of present government getting rid of secure jobs in which families can survive on. Really Brad you are getting too high up if you can't see all the families struggling in Saskatchewan! Spend a little less time refurbishing cars and making up ditties for Roughriders matches and see how rough it is for many in this province you are so lucky to be paid so well to run!
Mostly shop at the sobeys liquor store in saskatoon for several reasons - sellection, flyer specials, more cold options etc
I used to reside in Alberta, where liquor sales are privatized. The quality of my experience in Saskatchewan's publicly owned store is so much higher. Staff are better trained, knowledgeable and friendly. The prices for the products I buy is always lower than in Alberta. Please do not privatize liquor sales in Saskatchewan!
Keep it the way it is.
Why would the government sell off all SLGA stores when the annual revenue is $350 000 000? This would never be reclaimed through taxes of private Business. Additionally the lose of high paying jobs will have a significant toll on the economy due to increased Government funding for housing and other low income subsides. Private business would pay low wages and never account for the royalties generated by the SLGA. I would much rather see the SLGA expanded both in business size as well as capacity of all locations.

Liquor sales should remain in the goats control including retail sales
If you sell all the chickens to the wolf, don't wonder where your egg money went.
Some of these questions are obviously skewed in favour of private stores.
I believe this survey to be very flawed. The questions are biases loaded. The truth of this survey is a joke. The Government is not looking for my opinion. It is looking to make this look like a consultation. The Quance liquor store was sold to cosco last year. A flag ship of the chain. this about Bradly the selling of all the provinces assets to friends of the government for short term profits to make his budget look better on the short term. Make this a real report and make it real. This is a real issue. It is about the right selling off our investments to their friend for their personal gain and a short term gain on the books for the long term gain of the people of Saskatchewan. Tell BRADLEY to call me if the little man would likw to talk. But this just his puppet.
agood jobs in the community are important ,- not the low wages that will be paid by the private retailers
Alcohol abuse is a big problem in this province. It contributes to increased healthcare to deal with accidents and other health problems accosiated with alcohol consumption. We also spend more on policing and need to have more programs available for addiction. Making alcohol more accessible by habing it for sale in grocery stores does not make sense. Shouldn't we be making it less accessible instead of easier to purchase?
I feel the current system isn't broken and doesn't need fixing. I'm sure the government has other more important priorities than messing with a system that has served us well for many decades.
if its not broken don't fix it....Most urban stores are leased so no bricks and mortar building are required.....Ontario and Manitoba models preferred. Adding a private profit element in while maintaining gov't profits means consumers pay more-no thank you.
The current system works and brings revenue to government coffers instead of private profiteers. Leave the system as is.
I believe retailing of alcohol is not a place for government at all. There is no advantage to consumers or society by having a government employee run the cash register in a government owned building. Further, there is no reason that I as a taxpayer should contribute to the infrastructure to retail alcohol with my very infrequent buying patterns. I view alcoholic purchases as not a necessity and therefore a private enterprise should be able to cater to the market and profit from it.
Privatize all liquor sales with more competitive prices.
Given the mismanagement of the current government along with decreasing revenues, this issue should not be a priority and would cost the people of the province more than they are already paying.
I do not believe that the government has any need, nor business, being involved in the sale of liquor. The industry should be 100% privatized.
I enjoy having the ability to purchase a bottle of wine or beer at the same time as I buy the rest of my groceries.
If the government wont give up to private, start giving quantity discounts. Start offering a larger or more specific type or brands.
Keep good paying jobs instead of min wage jobs with no future.
The SGEU ads and propaganda are false and misleading.
Reduce the exorbitant levels of "sin tax" that you have placed on the product. Arbitrary high mark-ups on products (ie Tequila) make cross provincial border shopping attractive.
If this government continues on the path of privatizing, where is the shortfall in revenue going to be made up. Our taxes are high enough as it is, and our infrastructures are in need of constant repair.
Regardless of which retailer (SLGA, private stores, franchises or off-sales) sells the product to the consumer, the government collects the same mark-up. So there is no significant loss of income for the government.
The government can still maintain its current revenue by taxing the sale of liquor but it should allow the system to be fully privatized. The government still gets its cut from all the gas sold at gas stations and they are all private. Private business owners have a vested interest in not selling liquor to minors because it is bad for business. That should not even be an issue. If private businesses can refrain from selling to minors in all the restaurants and bars then they can certainly do it at a liquor store.
Liquor should be sold at all Grocery stores and Costco just like in USA. The government should not be in Retail they should just make the rules so they make a good revenue and protect people.
Keeping govt stores keeps money in Sask, also the govt has more control of liquor to minos
I have worked in the liquor industry for 40 years and i think government run is the best. I have seen private in the united states

and there is no regulations and the money just goes in private pockets instead of bettering our province
Alcohol should be marketed through liquor dedicated outlets, not convenience stores, etc.
I support the current model where SK owned stores are available in larger centres and small franchisees are available in rural communities. As liquor is a "vice" it is an appropriate model that they are run by the Gov't and profits are returned to the Gov't for investment into programs. The Alberta model is severely flawed. Sure it would be nice to buy $7 wine in Costco or Walmart like the USA, but that is not the way we do it, nor should do it.
If it ain't broke don't fix it!
In Sask. it is important to support the Rural communities as private outlets seek out higher profits and may abandon areas without gov't support. Current alcohol retailing works great for a small populated province such as sask.
1. Prices are too high in Saskatchewan. I agree in principle with taxing products such as alcohol and tobacco to help pay for Heathcare but a 160% mark up is overreach. Where is the tax on junk food? On soda? These products are as dammageable for one's health as alcohol. 2. Since revisiting mark ups is out of question, prices will likely remain high no matter what option is chosen. Even if prices won't change if the province chooses to follow Alberta's model, chances are there will be better accessibility and inventory. What about a full private regulated system in which the Government is not the middleman? Where retailers buy directly from producers? If the mark up (500 million in revenue) is so important for Government, it could still be implemented under such system. Is Government involved in tobacco sale? No. Are there any reasons it should be involved in alcohol sales?
I like the Alberta style
Governments do not need to be overpaying liquor store employees, nor do they need to be paying to maintain retails. That money could be better spent on Healthcare.
Privatize liquor sales, get rid of minimum pricing, any store should be able to purchase a license to sell liquor, if the sell to minors they should be fined and lose there license to sell.
I feel that the existing system, without expanding the sale of liquor by more private outlets , meets my needs. My purchases consist of higher end spirits and wines, which are unlikely to be carried by a private rural retailer.
I am in full agreement with the privatization of liquor & beers. Sooner the better. Prices here are the top of all Western (and Eastern) Canada.
I am in favor of govt run liquor store with educated employees...private liquor stores do not have good wines selection
If public liquor stores are privatized, how will the Province replace lost revenue provided to the General Revenue Fund from SLGA dividends?
Private liquor stores benefit local economies.
The govt needs to retain the profits not pass them to the private sector
I found your survey very biased
Government should not be competition with the private sector. Government should not be in the liquor business. Current government employees selling liquor have not protected the public, and that is why SK has a terrible record for drinking and driving and violence related to alcohol.
The government should seriously consider changing it's distribution system to a more virtual system so that businesses can purchase product directly from supplier. The government should also increase the amount of beer that micro breweries or craft breweries are allowed to produce.
I do not support the sale of any liquor in Saskatchewan. I support every step toward making it less and less available. The debt incurred by the accidents, fatalities, injuries and domestic violence it causes will never be recovered from selling more of it from any type of vendor. I promote entire abstinence from any intoxicating drink under any circumstance by any age or status of persons.
The private retailers are amazing - responsive, knowledgeable, and eager. The government store staff are complacent.
I feel that revenue from liquor sales is best used to educate people about the negative effects on some residents in Saskatchewan:Also tax money should help fund treatment centers. Thank You.
Sounds contradictory; but I believe in an improved 'status quo' system. Improved government retail experience, as well as

allowing for broader private investment.
No government should be involved in liquor retailing or distribution.
competition is a good thing.
I would like to see the regulations around local kraft beer change - quit inhibiting their expansion - they contribute to local economy.
whatever you decide to do please do not build extravagant building,s like the $2000000building in north battle ford with all the expensive artwork on the brick walls.Also no one should make over a $100,000 working there.Thanks for the opinion box!
From my experience the prices are lower in the Sask Liquor store in Lloydminster than any of the private one on the Alberta side. Furthermore the employees are better educated on the product and better paid and the profit comes back to the province to build more liquor stores, schools and bridges for all of us rather than just the store owner getting rich and paying minimum wages to his employees. Very little of the profit gets back to the province. The employees deserve better.
Government should not be in competition with private enterprise. There is no need for government sales of alcohol. The Liquor Board Stores have failed to stop underage drinking or drinking and driving or alcoholism. Time to privatize them.
I value the fact that the jobs in govt liquor stores are unionized and stable. I don't like the unregulated situation in Calgary.
Because of the way liquor is sold through government stores as it is now, government has control of consumption and laws relating to liquor. And the citizens of Saskatchewan des[parayely need the income from sales of liquor. Our provincial government could not meet the replacement of infrastucture in BOOM times. Now that oil is selling at a low price, depleting income, why is it needed to bite off an important hand that is feeding them, that is, the public liquor board sales? That defies common sense. ---------- Our HEALTH SYSTEM is suffering. As an example, I have not seen a medical doctor for a physical eaxm since 1977, a year after our twins were born. I phoned Prince Albert clinic last week to book an appointment, and I was informed that, "Sorry, but we are not accepting any new patients. The doctors are fully booked." There are not enough medical doctors. More funding is required to access more doctors. I pay huge taxes each year via 2 corporations as well as personal, and as a Saskatchewan citizen, I cannot access health care. I am not sick, I just thought that because I am now a senior, perhaps I should get a physical exam. It is a good thing that my health appears to be good.
I feel that we have been misslead to thinking that if we get more private liquor retailers that the pricing will be significantly reduced. However we are now being told that it will not be reduced to the level that it is in Alberta. If this is in fact the case, what is the heck is the real benefit for us as taxpayers?(Nothing) What we really are looking for is and in this order is, a true and open competitive market where the private retailer can set their own level of pricing, and increased selection. I / we are ok with the current mixed public / private system and are not interested in a private or public only system. I believe that what really needs to be accomplished is a complete overhaul of the drastically out of date SLGA regulations and this is where we need less government folks.
Have been to Sobeys in Saskatoon. Love it. Recommend it. Need more of them. Should be able to buy my liquor right in the grocery store but at least getting there now - just have to walk across parking lot.
Maintain our public liquor stores. The revenue from those public stores is vitally important to SK as it provides funds that are used for healthcare, roads, education and other important services. I've seen the private system in Alberta and it has not helped their province at all.
Private stores are the way to go. As long as they ensure ID checks are made and the stores do not look like old dumps. Regulate how many can open in an area we dont need three per block. Love the idea of grocery stores selling liquor but also think their hours of sale should be controlled. Like can not sell in grocery store on Sunday before noon. Government needs to stop treating Adults like kids. Stop worrying about strippers in bars etc. I moved here from BC in 2005 and think Government should worry about other things not being big brother. Stop being the religious preacher for the people. Enforce rules but know your place. NDP are the socialists Sask Party should not be.
This whole thing is ridiculous. The amount of money that will be lost by privatizing the liquor stores will be massive. Not to mention the impacts on communities and jobs in those communities. I guess everyone should only be allowed to work for min. Wage nowadays. Why would you ruin a guaranteed profit generator that has given money back to the taxpayers and claim the focus is on hospitals and education. Well everything is shambles right now and we need the revenue our public liquor stores are

giving us... NEWS FLASH!
I strongly believe that we need more options in rural Sask.
Privatize now!
We are not capitalists like Alberta. Dont act like grant divine. Bradley.
Generally selection in Alberta is poor at most locations. It is consolidating and there are few advantages compared to the current sask model.
status quo is my preferred option
Despite the misinformation being circulated by unions, liquor stores in Alberta offer awesome price advantages over SK. So much so our local state-run monopoly has to caution residents against 'smuggled' alcohol from our neighbours to the west. And liquor staff are too often surly and offer poor customer experiences. They have control, and they're doing your favour by letting you purchase at all. What's the opposite of customer service? That describes my experience with our store. Humour them in their rudeness and ignorance or no more liquor permits for you, and there is no alternative.
I have worked in a restaurant in Saskatoon where we could only sell uncorked wine if the shopper purchased a meal with it. The outrage and confusion from customers due to this policy made it very apparent that the government's current policies are obviously out of tune with what the average person in Saskatchewan wants.If the government had policies that were more flexible and did not restrict the consumer so greatly, I would agree with the benefit profits due to public liquor sales. That is currently not the case, however.
I would only support change that is revenue neutral for the provincial treasury. I am not willing to pay increased tax or see decreased services because of liquor store divestiture.
I think more should be done to help microbrewers of beer wine or spirits. If their product has a short shelf life or shouldn't be refridgerated they should be able to sell more direct to stores within what they believe is a distance that they feel their product will still have great quality. Also a little break, less tax for small business like this so more money is in their pocket to expand or research. I live in rural area but buy all kinds of made in Sask products, their are great people and products out their and with great policies more will come. Thanks
Make sure the net revenue is maintained. The public funded stores need to complete with the private sector. Don't build any new government funded liquor stores. If unions want to invest in them put up their own money not the public's. Lease the existing buildings back to them and let them run their own stores.
Governement should not be involved where the private sector can adequately meet the needs of the consumer! Continue to tax if desired for those reasons, and continue to mandate age restrictions etc., but GET OUT OF THE RETAIL MARKETPLACE! Other jurisdictions have proven there is no need for government run stores. The arguments of the union are completely artificial and only interested in protecting the jobs. If the employees are so good, the free marketplace will provide them employment... don't need protectionism
it would be so nice to do all of my shopping for instance at costco or co-op or sobeys instead of groceries at one store and then have to drive to who knows where to get a bottle of wine for supper
don't like the idea of private owned liquor stores. I worry that with private liquor stores people in rural areas will start buying liquor in cheeper private stores. this would take needed revenue away from liquor outlets in small towns. possible causing our small town's to loose even more services.
Because of the price of liquor in Saskatchewan we purchase most outside of the country at duty free and from another province.
I support a managed transition to fully private. I worked at SLGA. Unionized store workers are over-paid, resulting in higher product prices. Selction and price are most important to me.
government shouldn't be in the business of wholesale or retail liquor sales
I am 70 yrs old and have drank occasionally when younger but now have 2-3 drinks daily before supper.I have purchased at privately owned stores outside Sask., and was very disappointed in the cleanness of the stores and the service received. They were cluttered and unorganized.
If it's not broken, don't fix it.I don't want to see private liquor stores. I like the pricing to stay equal to all areas. I would like to be able to purchase Sask brewed product at ALL liquor stores and Franchises.
Cost of maintaining unions is too high as is maintaining infrastructure. When employees are also voting citizens, the government

has a conflict of interest when dealing with union contract negotiations. In business, government must set an operational example creating a very expensive system taxpayers can't & shouldn't have to bear. Because of the red tape & union involvement, government must hire 2 people to do the work of one private retailer employee.

The survey is misleading in that Private appears to exclude Franchise, when in fact they are both private enterprises. Also I believe that the less profitable owned stores can be converted to franchise operations in some communities which would be more profitable for SLGA. But government will have to learn to make decisions based on financial analysis rather then political bias. The system in place at present is a mixture of many forms of retail, yet the perception put forward is that it is public, you need to be more upfront about that. SLGA sells liquor throughout the province at the same price to the consumer regardless to where they reside. This would change with privatization, and in many communities the prices will soar .

In order to provide a well-informed opinion, it would be beneficial to know exactly where the mark-up money goes. What programs does is support, other than running the public liquor stores?

You shouldn't have to pay more for beer that was produced in Sask at a Sask liquor outlet than you can buy it cheaper in Alberta. Example Great West products

private vendors will not be more open to selling to minors, they have families too. just because store govt run doesn't make employees more responsible than private

This is a capitalist economy so why should the government have a monopoly on any good/service for sale (SGI included)?

If the government wants to monopolize a retail sector to increase public revenue then do not just stop at liquor but expand it to all retail produce (the large retailers are ripping us off and abusing their position and power, so why not the government). However be honest and do not claim to be a capitalist system, at the same time you might as well Hugo Chavez the oil industry and increase government funds as well. Whatever you do, do not have double standards.

The government would make more money if they let liquor sales be privatized because they would not have expensive fixed costs such as employees (salary and benefits) and building costs. These expenses are too high and the government would be better to let private companies own these expenses.

Alcohol has many risks to the health of individuals in our society, government involvement is necessary to keep those risks lowered. Privatization would increase those risks an costs as would have increase the monitoring of private retailors.

I would like the option of buying liquor in grocery stores, as well as dedicated stores. Government will still get revenue from the taxes on liquor sales.

Liquor retailing in Saskatchewan,especially for wine is near pathetic. The limitations on variety make choice of product ultra limited. I grew up purchasing from LCBO, have experienced the open market concept in Alberta, and also have seen different policies in different countries (Australia and Chile), both are major wine growers and allow free flow.

The fact that Canada has opened the ability for wine producers in Canada to ship across provincial borders, is lost on residents of Saskatchewan as we have not embraced such ability whether by unwilling to change laws or step into modern times.

I further think that as a consumer, it is not fair to fund social programs on my back. If you need more money for instrastructure or health care or education , then raise taxes for everyone, but don't make it a consumer tax.

We can do better. We can enter the new century with arms open, not with our heads in the sand missing the rest of the country pass us by.

I think let the private sector worry about where to build stores and how to price product. Government can tax and make revenue that way. With increased sales due to increased availability of product the government should maintain revenue through tax dollars. Privatizing liquor sales would also create jobs as more stores will open.

Having had the experience of purchasing beverage alcohol in Alberta and in Britain, particularly in grocery stores, I favour option 3: Alberta-style Fully Private Retail System.

I have lived through the Alberta experience. Need I say more! Look at more small businesses in rural communitiesand less corp. entities.

It is too bad that in order to protect the tax revenue for the government, the businesses have to spend a lot, for the safety of cigarettes and liquor and there property .

The newly constructed oversized store in Yorkton was a huge waste of taxpayers dollars. To eliminate waste a right wing government must turn this over to the private sector where it belongs. Stand by the majority who voted you into office.

How is liquor retail a core business of government? It is not a service that citizens need government to provide. Let private business handle it and SLGA stick to regulation. Reduce the footprint of government by 750 jobs. There is no reason why retail employees should be public servants earning unionized wages. Turn all of it to the private sector to create jobs and stick to social services and infrastructure citizens need - schools, roads, hospitals. Liquor is a luxury, not a public service.

Please Privatize!
This is somewhat skewed survey. It assumes that the government will have more funds for investing in other areas such as health and education if it does not invest in additional government liquor stores. In fact the present government stores contribute revenue for these purposes. The Alberta experience has shown that government revenue from liquor taxation declined with their move to privatization in part because of the greatly increased need for more supervision and regulation.This was due to the inevitable consequence of illegal sales to minors by private retailers.
Small liquor vendors in rural communities not served by a government liquor store is very important.
When you use the term "social Harm" and you have to increase the price of alcohol for this, does this really deter the young people? Doesn't matter what program or agenda you use to get to the people, they will not listen as they have it set in their minds to drink or not. Welcome to today's generation. As for private to public stores I don't care what kind of store it is just drop the prices because I can go to Alberta or even Manitoba as a fact and get cheaper prices. You want to keep your money in this province but yet you give me no choice but to buy elsewhere. Im not a huge drinker at all but I will buy at the best price, which usually means when I'm in the other provinces from time to time I will buy from them first before us. Do your price checking and be competitive to a certain point. Have incentives like air miles in manitoba or better hours like AB and MB. Do your homework as you have failed again and again at this. This should of been dealt with years ago. I remember when sasktel mobility said they had the best plans compared to other provinces. E.g. would be free cell to cell. Manitoba had that plan for years but yet SK didn't. When I told them of this they were surprised but I wasn't. Anyways, If you stay as a government store(s) be competitive with other provinces as this is a world economy nowadays. People talk and they will go anywhere to get the best deal...even the good ole USA... Thanks,
I found out about this because SGEU wasted my taxpayer and employee dollars to send me a package asking me to oppose liquor privatization. That makes me extremely angry, to waste my money that way. So it made me come find this survey on my own, because I am very much in support of liquor NOT being public. I came from AB, and we actually wait until we are back there to buy most of our alcohol, because I dislike buying from the public liquor stores availabe to me in SK.
Liquor is way too expensive in Saskatchewan. It is a tax on people who like a certain product, which is completely wrong. I don't personally care either way private or public, as long as cost is reduced significantly.
The availability of local Saskatchewan-made craft beer in provincial liquor stores is currently very poor. Even in the private stores, I find far more craft beer on the shelves from Ontario than from local breweries. I'm far more interested in increasing the access to good local beer than worrying about public vs private stores. Also, refrigeration of product is a huge bonus in private stores.
The "Options Paper" accompanying this survey does not mention the possibility of government-run liquor stores increasing their product selections. That paper claims (multiple times) that the Co-op store in Saskatoon carries 2000 more SKUs than the government-run stores choose to carry. However, since the purchasing/importation and wholesaling for the Co-op's stock is performed by the government-run warehouse system, there is no reason (other than perhaps a lack of store shelf space) why the government-run stores and small-market franchise operators could not make the same selection available to their customers. The issue of shelf space restrictions in smaller stores could be readily solved by ordering from stock at the provincial warehouse. Most of the complaints I have had and/or have heard of from friends about the Saskatchewan liquor retailing system are in the areas of product selection, customer convenience, and customer service; notably absent from this list is any complaint that requires system privatization in order to be solved. I would suggest that the government take a look at some of the customer service and product selection practicies of the Swedish "Systembolaget" state-owned monopoly system (see). I do not support further privitization of liquor sales in this province.
Product availability and fair pricing in a convenient environment are what I care most about.
There is no reason for the government to be running retail stores of any kind. Having to go to Soviet Liquor in Saskatoon to buy alcohol is ridiculous and allowing private retailers to open would eliminate the need to enter those old run down stores.
This survey should have also been made available to those who do not use a computer (i.e. seniors) who would have liked to participate.
No government should be involved in any retail business.
I have to wonder how much revenue Saskatchewan is losing from cross border shoppers who buy their alcohol in Alberta or the States. Let's be realistic, the same 15 pack of beer in Alberta is $7 cheaper than here in Saskatchewan. Fuel is cheaper, cigarettes are cheaper and you don't think people in your province are not bringing their alcohol in from another province? You are losing revenue because of the higher prices. Lower your prices, privatize and you will make more money for your

programs. People will purchase here instead of supporting Alberta's economy.
The government has no reason to be involved with the sale of alcohol and its regulation. Privatize it and get the gov't out of there. Very inefficient. The market will figure it out. Even communist Russia has private liquor stores.
Why do the franchise have a lower blend mark up than the new big retailers that looks like it's not fair to my towns small business
I strongly believe that our government needs to keep at least the government operated stores we have at present entact in order to maintain the level of proficiancy we have right now. I think the reasons for doing so far outweigh the reasons for privatising and I beleive the more we privatise liquor the more and more problems we will have with it. we would be opening a huge can of rotten worms. Thankyou.
I would suggest keeping the stores you have, but from now on only allow private stores to open.
less government is always good. let them govern and let stores retail.
Govt needs to keep these stores as they need the revenue they generate and I don't like the possible loss of jobs for those already employed in the stores
Government should get out of the business of liquor retailing in the Province of Saskatchewan. Of the options being considered by the government, I would support either option 3, Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System, or option 4, Managed Transition to Fully Private Retail.
more private please
The gov't has to own and not sell everything. Where does the money come for roads, health, etc? Oil is not the only ans for govt coppers. People need good jobs and security . Increase taxes are not always ans. if people have poor incomes. Please take your time for wisdom to deal with this issue.
It is so nice when you are in the states or other provinces where you can buy liquor in a private establishment such as a convenience store. Or go to wineries and buy their products. In BC this past summer I even bought a bottle of wine at a farmers market! I also believe in less taxation on the product leaving more money in the consumers pockets. I vote privatization.
Government should keep control of alcohol sales so it can use the profits to maintain other vital programs like roads, healthcare,etc. Oil and potash mining help with government revenue but if the profits from alcohol is not there, is the government to raise taxes to make a difference. Don't think taxpayers are going to be too happy and are going to resist the idea. Please use better judgement when making your decision. A lot of slga workers are going to be out of work. Not that easy to get another job when the economy is weak. Remember some private places would be alright but there will be some who are going to put a black mark on the business by their attitude and favoritism. So I would like it the way it is. Thank you.
quit privatizing
I am in support of the expanded private retail system or the managed transition to fully private retail. I have done extensive research on this topic (various policy papers in University). One option I would suggest the government of SK look further into is described in "Strategy for Transforming Ontario's Beverage Alcohol System." This was an independent report done in 2005. The panel that prepared this report recommended that the province adopt a licensing system. Under this system, the government would grant, through an auction process, fixed-term licences to perform the retail functions of a liquor store. A positive from this option is that the government would continue to make profit every time they sell a license, rather than only making profit once through the sale of the government stores and other assets (like what was done in Alberta). The government would also have more control over who receives the licenses, and can thus control the number of stores and their locations. This option benefits the government, the private-sector, and consumers. One side note I would like to add is that I greatly admire the government's approach of requesting the opinion of the public before proceeding with any option.
Annual revenue from liquor is important in ensuring better health systems, roads, & other provincial government programs and services for Saskatchewan residents is maintained.
I believe there is no need for government liquor stores that they should be privatized with government as the wholesaler and regulator
In spite of wrong information about pricing in Alberta, we have found that prices at Superstore and Costco are dramatically lower for wine and spirits than Saskatchewan stores. It would be an improvement to permit lower prices.
Personally I think that alcohol should only be available in gov't stores. People who are addicted to alcohol frequent the off-sales and a lot of the b & e are a result of smash and grab the go to the nearest pawn shop. Who needs liquor on every corner and then tell kids that it isn't good to drink!
I support the idea of gov't leaving the retail business, but would like revenue for the gov't to remain. Not sure if both are

achievable.
The more the government privatizes liquor and other commodities the less money there is to spend on education health, etc. Already this present government is giving tons of breaks to big business and not doing much for seniors, low cost housing, the poor, etc. Let's quit giving away the province.
Discounted sales of alcohol should be allowed. Allow competition in the market.
I do not think we need more liquor stores & I am uncertain why the government wishes to get rid of this revenue stream. I think it is foolish & short thinking on their part.
I believe I should be able to have a mug of beer at a micro brewery rather than just a sample.
NOTHING HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LOSE JOB SECURITY, PENSIONS, MEDICAL CARE, IF THE CURRENT LIQUOR STORES ARE CLOSED!!!! MANY PEOPLE HAVE CHOSEN TO WORK THERE AS A CAREER, WITH DECENT PAY.
Prefer maintaining the existing system
No point in changing anything if you arent going to change the amount of wholesale profit colected. Prices are not competative at stores and until they are I will continue to get my expensive rums in Alberta
Last year more than $252 million in profits from liquor sales. If this goes private, where will we get this revenue from?? Did you know 76% of spirits were less expensive than AB 70% of beer products were less expensive than in private stores in AB
Some of your questions should be more straight forward. I felt they had a 2 part to be answered. I feel that the status quo is a good system.the government still has control and also has employees who have good incomes and government income for tax purposes.
Let's get more private run liquor stores and then the customer will ultimately decide which is better
Concerns is that in rural Saskatchewan some of the liquor outlets are not meeting theminimum and play price game based on the purchase time if after 1030 pm they charge different rate, so I think in some cases competition is good in rural Saskatchewan it will have retailers that would like to invest and make good business decisions carrying certain products meeting their customers needs.
The SLGA has way r Too much to say about what is offered for purchase in SK, about how and where it can be purchased, It not supportive of the local SK, industry that is trying to get established against huge multinational corporations, in fact it seems like they are fighting it all they, makes you wonder just who they are working for. U
paying union personnel the wages they are getting, as well as the cost associated with a Government owned store, is reason enough to privatize this business.
government will retain a certain amount from sales and taxes of alcohol regardless of who is running them. Unions are getting too demanding and private stores would end their constant whining when they are overpaid already compared to similar jobs in the private industry
I worry about the way in which these questions were asked. They are slanted towards the answers that the current government would like the survey results to demonstrate.
I think the questions in this survey are unfair towards the government liquor retailing side. The feedback of this survey will be skewed towards the private side and will not be an accurate representation of what the Saskatchewan people think.
privatize it and as many other government operations as possible.
Private is good for all.
Keep liquor public.
I most agree with the option "expanded private retail system." I think this option would best serve Saskatchewan residents.
We've been to private stores in Lloydminster Lethbridge and Medicine Hat and none compare to the quality of selection or advice at the SLB in North Battleford. I hope you dont' make any changes to the system; it works great the way it is.
I support a Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System

Alcohol is a luxury, not a necessity. Alcohol does not need to be readily available at each corner. An excellent form of voluntary taxation for the government.
Keep the current mix of private and public. Selling the public assets will result in a one time profit with future profits accruing the private sector, which is unacceptable to me as a taxpayer of this province. The government liquor system provides good jobs with benefits, which would certainly not be the case in a private setting, as we can see from the Alberta example. Franchises give access to liquor to smaller communities which could not support a government liquor store, but there is no reason for private stores in large settings like Regina or Saskatoon.
Why fix what is not broken, seems to be the way of our government these days, many areas of importance suffer while something that has always worked and provided profit to the province takes up time and money - why?
keep private out of saskatchewan
it ain't broke don't fix it
Saskatchewan should get with the times. Get rid of public liquor stores please!
My concern is that the majority of people wanting private liquor stores believe they will save lots of money. I do not think those who purchase lots of liquor understand the potential impact of losing this government revenue and loss of government jobs by privatizing it. I hope the decision is made based on cost/feasibly rather than simply the some of the views of the public, unless those views are educated.
Keep liquor stores public .....keep the revenue going back into the province to help pay for Health care and other social programs. ....rather than filling the pockets of private business
Do not privatize we need the revenue for programs in Saskatchewan.
Keep them public, privatizing destroys things and raises prices. Jobs put at risk as for profit. Also we need to keep the revenue coming in for liqueur sales especially at a time of such instability, some stable revenue is good
Do Not Sell Government Liquor Stores
Stop privatization
We need monies back in our community!
I support any opportunities to diversify product selection while maintaining competitive pricing, availability, and funding for other initiatives from government revenues. A blended system would be best for this, I believe. One important thing regarding liquor retailing is the importance of allowing entrepreneurs who wish produce and sell spirits the ability to do so within the province. For example, allowing a brewery to produce, market, and sell privately and province-wide. It's important to support local entrepreneurs who wish to bring new ventures and ideas to the economy of Saskatchewan. So long as it doesn't endanger our society, ideas should be considered and compromises made. I like the system we have, to be honest. But it's important to open up to new ideas such as testing liquor availability in grocery stores, etc. I don't claim to know much about liquor retailing, but, as a customer, selection of specialty, unique, and locally-produced liquor is important to me. Thanks for reading this! Hope the survey helps.
If your making money at something it doesn't make much sense to get rid of it!
I think liquor sales are easier to police in gov. Stores.
Government has no place in the business of liquor. Government should provide a framework of legislation and allow private enterprise the full right to undertake the distribution of liquor.
Allow people of Sask. the opportunity to go into business for themselves and make the money, not the gov't who in the end will waste the money anyway!!!
Let there be private liquor stores in Saskatchewan, like Alberta, along with the selections and prices that stores in Alberta have.
I really do not understand the logic of selling busineses that are making a profit. What is the sense at taking a one time profit to blow and have nothing for the future? It's time to put the future of the province in the forefront and not the momentary gratification of a few extra bucks.

Leave the it just the way it is. It is working fine. There are far more important things for the government to worry about then liquor sales.
Privatization
Go with private stores. I have been in Alberta and Ontario. And the stores there work just fine! Don't let those ndp screw us again!!!
I think Sask. residents are being gouged by the Govt. The prices are grossly inflated. Whenever the govt. needs extra cash flow, the price of liquor is raised and is falsely justified by saying it is for the good of the public. This is why I make my own beer and wine or shop out of province. I'm convinced that the govt. will find a way to overtax these methods too. I understand that the price will not be reduced in any way regardless of the outcome of this survey or the final decision. I'm sure the decision has already been made but this survey is a way the powers that be can say it was " the people's choice". This way liquor sales will be privatized so the govt. can save money by off loading costs by laying off employees while reaping the profits that will still be collected by private business.
Please give us private options. So frustrating when you go to other places, in Canada, and have better access and options.
We need lower pricing no matter which way this survey and the decision goes.
I moved here from alberta and think they have a better policy as they don't roll up the sidewalks at 6 or in regina 9 pm,sask is so behind the real world.
modern retailers such as food stores are more than capable of offering a sensible alternative to union dominated stores
I am fine with liquor retailing the way it is in Saskatchewan allowing private ownership of liquor stores makes sense in markets where consumers will get additional hours of operation, service and selection where needed. I like the professional service I receive now, however, certain markets would benefit from private liquor sales being provided. I am against grocery stores and convenience stores selling liquor.
The goverment of Saskatchewan should get out of the liquor retailing. Liquor is a Cancer that is killing our providence. The providice of Saskatchewan should ban the consuption, and sale of liquor.
I don't think alcohol needs to be cheaper there's enough people screwed up over alcohol .We should leave well enough alone
If privatized please make sure it goes to second generation to sask citizens not people who are only in the country for a few weeks.
Leave things as they are now
Competitive pricing is valuable to me.
I think a mixture of Government Stores and private stores is the way to go. Liquor stores should be allowed to be open until a least midnight
It makes absolutely no sense to privatize liquor sales that are contributing to the provincial gov't coffers. Once it is privatized, the source of revenue disappears. Gov't stores pay a decent wage to employees who are knowledgeable and helpful, and there is more variety than in any private store I have shopped at.
It cost a lot to support employees ie wages, pensions, workers comp. that is not told to Sask. citizens. What's the comparison between private and public ownership.
Private enterprise can always do a better more efficient job than government employees.
full private retail system
There is too much regulation of alcoholic beverages and as a result prices have increased exponentially. This has to stop. I don't mind paying a little more for alcohol, but the prices have become out of control and utterly ridiculous.
When the Liquor Store starts dictating how many empty beer returns you can bring (Fort Qu'Appelle and their beer bottle return limit) I think it is time to privatize!
After working in a liquor franchise I think that the government should not invest in new liquor stores, but maintain the ones they have. Any future requirements for luquor stores should be delt with as franchises. Where the company's primary focus will not solely be on liquor but other buisness (ie grocery store)
The cost of liquor would be basic for government for all stores .Private stores would have the responsiblity of the building and property as well as the employee wages.This would save the government a load in cost.
The survey itself is limited with the style of questions. The questions that suggest there would be more money for this government to spend on health, education, etc. is very misleading because the government is MAkING a PROFIT right now from

OWNING liquor board stores and this profit should be put into education and health already. Thai government needs to stop privatizing our government own revenues! This survey also LIMITS those who DO NOT have Internet access! DO NOT PRIVITIZE liquor stores!!!
Keep the government stores but allow free enterprise stores as well
The way you twist the truth is disgusting !
give people the choice to buy where they like. Govt not controlling everything is my opinion.
leave existing as found
I'm in favour of better selections and lower pricing. When consumers by cheaper in Alberta or the USA, why shop here?
I wish that the current liquor stores would offer a greater selection of higher quality liquors.
gust leve it the way it is now
I want the Liquor Board stores to remain the way they are.That is the way it is , so just leave it be!
I do not want to see private liquor stores popping up all over Saskatchewan like in Alberta. It makes it even easier for young teens to access liquor when they are under age. This to me is the wrong direction for the Current and or future Gov's to want. I see to many high school kids having access to liquor now and if more mom n pop stores were to pop up in Saskatchewan like Alberta IMO this would lead to even more under agers accessing liquor. The current system in place allows the Prov to thrive with income from the public stores and very good paying jobs to tax payers so all the moneys stay in the prov if the gove were to privatize these stores the profits would not be staying in the province. We can see that with the current low price of Oil our Prov gov's income has dropped by over 60-70% with oil revenues so any moneys the gov can keep IMO it should keep. Its about looking after the Prov & its citizens first not looking after big business ahead of the tax payers. I hope this helps I have lived in Saskatchewan for my entire life and want the same values I had growing up to be there for my children and their children.
Keep as is.
I would like to see more privatization. More variety and some different prices!! It is time to get out of this archaic system!!
I think things should stay the way they are, there is no benefit in privatization except loosing jobs and if there is so much revenue coming from government run liquor stores for hospitals , roads etc then why change something that isn't broken. Just leave it the way it is. I got forced to accept the new stadium and now this what is next????
For me, the main reason to keep operating gov't liquor stores is that they provide the province with a revenue stream that can be used to pay for other services. If that revenue is lost, how does the gov't make up for it?
Privatizing liquor stores is just another step of the Brad Wall Government in Privatizing other Crown Corporations. The loss of government jobs is very important. Where does the government feel they will get the revenue from if they no longer get it from liquor stores. What other things will they cut because of the loss of revenue.
Consider a minimum vendor size and do not allow excess vendors per particular area. Consider vendor security standards to minimize robbery risk especially small vendors. Include security cameras for all sites. Shopping in Alberta for liquor is superior to current Sask program.
status quo, continue to run government stores as they are today. no more privatization.
At the risk of loosing jobs I would prefer to see jobs kept. From what I have heard now there isn't much difference in price. The only difference in privateand govtownedstores is that thegovt is backing private business and killing everything else
When the government doesn't have to pay employee wages and property upkeep, they will make more by just getting tax revenue from the alcohol. Privatize!!!!
Government regulation staffing and opportunity to gain and use profits must be retained. Privatization makes us more American and less benevolent and caring.
I think it should be left as is, the government can use the profits towards healthcare, highways, etc., and it helps with the current shortfall with the oil situation.
like private enterprise, believe they can do a very good job for less.
I honestly do not see why the government doesn't just privatize liquor sales and continue to operate the more profitable LB stores. privatizing opens up more job opportunities and the government is still going to receive funds from taxes, both business taxes as well as sales taxes whilst cutting operation costs.
I think the government should make the profits which is divided among all the people of sask. And not privatize the stores and

let only a few people make the money. Also it is very important to maintain those middle class jobs to keep our economy revolving
Govt should retain current revenue model to ensure profits are available when needed (ie. times when budgetary deficits may occur)
from personal experience the employees of the slga stores are the last people I would recommend anyone take advice from with regards to wine, beer or spirits, they are severely lacking knowledge on all the products they sell.
keep it as it is!
. Shame on you guys for trying to close such a great thing for this province. It's Truly sad how a one person can brain wash and ruin an entire province. I have not and will not EVER buy privatized liquor. I'd rather drive and give the United States economy my money then play into this sick game. You are all ruining our way of life, for what? A quick buck?
Specialized stores selling boutique types and Beer only stores could be private. General retailing of alcohol, as we have in the publicly owned/operated should stay this way. There should be no ban on new general retail stores. All that is is political dogma and has no place in this issue. Stop playing politics by catering to small out of touch supporters of the government. Try rising above gutter politics, if not, you will end up angering many many people who will see you as nothing but a small minded government that is more concerned with giving to supporters than governing for everyone.
Alcohol consumption is too high among young people, irresponsible drinking is costly to society. Too many broken homes because of alcohol abuse, high cost to health care also.
Status quo. Liquor profits mean the tax dollar goes to othr govt funding, health,education, including proper wages for liquor employees. Obviously there is money to be made otherwise the private sector wouldnt want it. Lets keep it here for our people our needs.
Keep all the liquor income within government
Private ownership will extend the hours of operation thus: more availability will result in increased alcohol use and abuse - mostly minimum wage jobs and poorer service - enormous profit loss for the government as the private owners returns will be greater than government cost of operation - loss of government buildings, as they will be offered at greatly reduced prices to the private purchaser - increased profit will result in longer hours of operation thus increasing the opportunities for robberies and crime! Also, increased availability will result in higher rates of Alcoholism! This approach makes NO sense...let us retain the profits and good paying jobs!
Private retailers will have profit and the bottom line as their main priority. Patronage will definitely enter into the picture, benefiting the privileged few only!
I like the mix of Gov't and private stores. I also think the Gov't needs to keep control and profits from liquor sales.
I believe the goverment of Saskatchewan should NOT be in the retail business of marketing/selling alcohol. this can be handled by the private sector.
It bugs me that if I want a cold beer at 9:30 in the evening I have to go to a noisy stinky bar and pay way too much because some aged teetotaler has decided he or she knows better than I whats good for me. The use of high price to reduce alcohol abuse just does not apply in the real world.
It is imperative niche breweries have direct access to retailers. Their product must bypass the SLGA wearhousing process. I see no need to exercise the current level of needless govt control over alcohol.
Profits from liquor sales should go to the provincial government and stay with the government going towards healthcare, education and roads.
I am not to concerned with price or availability. It is my view liquor sales would be a bigger profit to the Prov. and it's tax payers given to the private sector.
With revenues down in potash and oil it is uturely ridiculous to think that the government would consider given up another revenue based business that they own. The Sask party needs to be a leader and not te follower of provinces in this country. Don't use comparisons "because the other guys do"!!!
Would rather people had stable good paying safe government jobs than private stores that seem to only make the owner rich. Government workers spend most of their money in province and are able to retire with pension security.

Privatize!
private retail ,gov,t out
I feel the government stores are over staffed with union people who don't care about the customer experience. They are over paid for stocking shelves and running a cash register. This is a job for 18 year olds out of school, not people trying to make a living from being in a government union.
I want growler filling stations everywhere beer is sold.
Maintain the status quo
The government liquor store is much cheaper than the Liquor Spot .in Weyburn The Liquor Spot for a 26 Vodka is 30.50 where at the government is 26.00
Leave the stores the way they are. No private stores.
Leave the liquor stores as is. I am not that old but have experienced first hand when govt has privatized costs increased, service remained the same, thus did not benefited the average citizen, the people at the top of the new organization benefit with $$
I would like to see profits from the sale of liquor in Saskatchewan remain as they are
I believe that a strong private sector retailing liquor without too much gov't. regulation would serve our province well.We are spending too much on staffing gov't.stores and would see better results spending the money on our aging infrastructure.
What a farce privatization is for business to put it to the consumer. They will continue to lobby for a greater share like they did in Alberta and governments will give in to them. Our liquor stores already operate at an overhead the private industry can't match so the government gives them a larger discount. I have researched this issue very closely.
Follow what Alberta has done
I am a swing voter. Not too much left or right. However, I don't believe Sk. should privatize liquor stores. Why replace these workers who can almost make a living working, without crime or wellware assistance ,with on minimum wages.
If the government is continuing to be the wholesaler which in turn will control retail pricing fir the most part they should continue to be the main retailer. I think the government should realize the funds from being the retailer does help all the things they want to use what they consider as savings will fund.
Save tax payers as much money as possible. Keep Union jobs strong and alive as much as possible in the city and province. I'm always in favour of supporting with my money towards Union jobs. Thank you & please leave as is and not change to privit.
Make them private because it is very inconvenient to purchase domestic beer in rural area. But limit the number of stores.
1 your questions in survey are very open to interpretation, very poor on your part. 2 I support government running this and other businesses (sasktel, saskpower, etc.), I believe our govt is very capable and more trustworthy than private companies. 3 I believe govt run business would provide more profit to taxpayers than private business and at a lower cost to customers. 4 please do not privatize any more businesses the province owns and operates! A govt run business is similar to a cooperative in giving it's profits to its owners the taxpayers.
Unless there is a REAL movement to inter provincial competitiveness there is No need for private stores.
I feel it is important to keep liquor retailing public. The government and Saskatchewan residents benefit from the revenue generated from public establishments. Privatizing liquor would eliminate a source of revenue for the province and potentially eliminate jobs for Saskatchewan people. I don't understand how losing this source of revenue would benefit the province.
Sask should allow private sale of liquor
To be honest, the current system is not broken. This evaluation of the liquor stores seems to be a massive make-work project and fuss over nothing. It isn't broken - so don't fix it.
The loss of revenue that liquor sales bring in will be difficult to extract from another source. The revenue is needed now and perhaps more in the future. People don't seem to have that much trouble getting alcohol now.
I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THINGS STAY AS THEY ARE.
Alberta style

I do not agree with eliminating the Government liquor boards they certainly bring in revenue provide employment an overall positive experience shopping at these stores. If I felt the money saved would go to Health or Education I might reconsider these two areas of our provine does not seem important to our current government body
If we could approach the price and variety offered by the LCBO (Ontario) that would be ideal.
If the government feels that a larger selection is required, they can open specialty shops in the two larger centres (Regina and Saskatoon).
Keep liquor sales profits working for Saskatchewan. Stick your heads over the border to the south and see all the Alkies with their brown bags sitting in front of all the numerous liquor outlets!
open liquor sales in retail stores such as Safeway & Walmart as they do in the USA no more drunks down in the USA
How can we lose the revenue generated by liquor stores for social programs and justify it? What better way for people to pay taxes than on "sin" taxes which individuals can avoid. When it comes to things which need monitoring and which need quality handling I believe a division of the government is important. I also like the idea that workers earn a livable wage. I would like to see government more concerned, in reference to jobs, with the lack of stable and fairly paid jobs (i.e. waitresses who work 2 or 3 jobs, etc. to survive. That is shameful as a society.)
Alberta has an interesting system where they set minimum pricing and government profits from liquor sales. The government needs the revenues for other priorities like healthcare, roads, etc and liquor is a consistant source of revenues.
Privatize like Alberta. We don't need to pay high Union wages for shelf stockers. Break the sask unions.
I feel much more confident that I'll have a good experience at a government run liqueur store than at a private store.
I do agree with keeping some of the existing government stores as long as money is not continuously put into them to compete with the private stores. It would be nice to be able to purchase certain items in Saskatchewan rather than having to purchase them out of province. Saskatoon Sobey's was very impressive hopefully Regina's will open soon. Will be making a trip soon to pick up items that I am unable to purchase here.
All Liquor outlets should be in Grocery Stores or Local Business establishments. Small towns are all this way and government still gets consumption tax collected without the employment costs or issues! Please get rid of ALL GOVERNMENT LIQUOR STORES and focus on what Government should be doing. Thank You
I support private operation of liquor stores. Lost in the discussion seems to be the ongoing cost of pension contributions to government employees. Revenue is only part of the equation.
Alcohol sales have always provided good revenue for taxpayers with the huge bonus of fairly paid employees which is also a bonus for taxpayers. Many private businesses pay the minimum in wages & Sask. does not need higher numbers of "working poor".
Why would the government want to give away revenue and lose good paying jobs? A minimum wage earner does not pay income tax at the same rate as any SK Gov't worker!! It has been proven that private sector does not work!
govt run express marts in grocery stores would be convenient. Responsible liquor sales is important. could see price gouging if sales went private. NO THANKS to Alberta style system. CHEERS.
The questions in this survey were very leading and made it difficult to provide honest feedback. I currently favour the status quo until the government can explain where they would get the money they would lose from not having liquor store profits in a purely private system. Where would it come from? If you can give a straight answer to that question I would consider supporting a private system.
Maintain liquor retailing as gov't owned and operated. I feel the gov't is purposely making current liquor stores look bad in a clever way. There is plenty of room to improve our publicly owned liquor stores. The gov't of the day chooses not to. This is done to have the public think privatizing is the only answer to have a better operated liquor outlet. It is designed to convince the public that privatizing is the only way to go if you want improvement. Nice Survey.
No private liquor stores. The Gov't owned stores make great profits and the staff are able to support their families with good long-term jobs!
Alberta style
make them private like other provinces. More competition
a service in a smaller community that private investors won't provide the selection due to cost factors. Gov't stores a drawing card for small town. Wages spent in smaller communities
Not worried about jobs .just want revenue for other projects and to support programs. I know the price i am paying is going to

support things i or family use everyday. Not worried about saving a couple of bucks.
Do not allow private liquor vendors.
If it ain't broke don't fix it Is the sask liquor board profitable? If yes then stay the course. I am originally from ontario and the beer store is the largest purchaser in the world of alcohol giving them purchasing power. Selling spirits in a controlled setting is a good idea. How many times is a sask liquor store robbed? How often are convenience stores robbed?
Don`t Go Private
Privatize
I firmly believe as an educator in this province no further access to liquor is needed. I also appreciate the revenue which comes from government owned businesses.
Liquor is not a benign product. Society spends a lot of time dealing with its effects: health costs, increased employee absences, costs to the police and legal systems. That is the current situation with the current availability for consumers. Increasing availability for the sake of convenience does not outweigh the need to look after the larger sector of society who do not want the extra expenses of all the social costs of liquor. It is easily available all ready. No one is suffering from being unable to get to a place to purchase liquor. We need to have the proceeds from liquor as high as possible in our provincial coffers to help mitigate the social costs of liquor. Private vendors need profit. The province will eventually be in the losing end of privatizing liquor sales, once the sale of property no longer covers some of the losses to the provincial coffers as vendors factor in their profit. We are stuck with liquor in society. Let us at least be able to be the ones profiting from liquor sales in terms of monies to mitigate the social costs that come with its place in our society.
Giving liquor revenue to the government is like pouring water into a bottomless hole. In a private store the revenue benefits local people and that money is then spent in a local economy, not by propping up over inflated government salaries.
It is time that we open the liquor market to private individuals to provide competition and selection. Private stores will still have to employ people to operate them so jobs are not a strong argument. It's time Saskatchewan joins the rest of the world in liquor sales.
Born in Saskatchewan, I did spend 7 years in Alberta. I found the private liquor stores having a wider selection and were more price competitive, particularly for beer and wine. Being a rural resident I find the hours of operation in rural stores inconvenient. I am a huge supporter of all private business vs. any type of Government business whether these be Provincial or Federal. Governments should govern, not be in retail sales.
I feel that the Government spends far too much in salaries in government operated liquor stores. And the government does not need to invest in further bricks and mortar facilities, when it collects the taxes from liquor sales no matter who sells the product.
i go south in the winter where we can get liquor everywhere and we drink no more than at home..please get gov't out of the retail busness!
Keep them a government operation
Government should not be in the business of liquor sales at all. Private stores can create jobs at more efficient levels then any Union can.
Government expanded retail
I was looking for info but couldn't find it I thought that mr wall said the liquor prices wouldn't change with privatation if that is true then I wouldn't be in support of changing the dynamic wouldn't see the sense
I just know from other government owned corp. such as Sasktel - they have very poor service and when things are privately owned they are usually operated better!
It is time the government stepped back from owning and operating businesses.
If privatized our taxes will only increase to make up for the loss of revenue to the Government. at least this way only those who are drinking are paying those taxes and others who don't drink or drink very little are not paying for something they don't use.
Alberta
All govt stores should be closed and turn over to the private sector. There is no need for the govt to be in the retail sector. The govt can still maintain profit margins without the cost of buildings and staffing. The private sector can do a much better job running stores at a profit with lower cost to the consumer. We pay way too much for products that are available in other provinces at a lower cost. A lot of sales are being lost to cross border shopping for the privilege of govt run stores.

private puts money back to community in all taxes donations advertising etc/ unions do not
We love shopping in the Costco and Superstore liquor outlets in Alberta and hope to see the same here in Saskatchewan!
Outside of government hands or the hands of producers who sell direct(micro breweries or distilleries), there should be no other options. I have seen the effects of lessening regulation and you will pay more tax dollars in policing and prosecution and the ensuing costs.
The Wall government promised NOT to PRIVATIZE Crown owned businesses. The move towards privativzation would break that promise! Privatization has proven to cost more in the long run. In the short term, government would get monies from the sale of and or privatization of these liquor stores but in the long term profits would decrease! Private companies are in business to MAKE money. Publically owned businesses are not solely about making money. Crown owned corporations SHOULD NOT BE SOLD!
I believe we need to maintain the revenue currently received from liquor sales to fund public services & we need to maintain well paying jobs to try to reverse the trend of working families having a harder & harder time each year to make ends meet.
bc makes great wine.. cant buy it in Sask. Ontario also has unique honey mead.. cant get it in Sask. sucks.. so limited
Many snowbirds cross border into Alberta because of excessive tax in Sk. Therefore all tax is lost because of excessive greed. Everyone I know makes a point of crossing into Ab. This is not good business.
Wine and beer should be available at grocery stores.
More private and gov't stay same number
It would be great to have the option to have a variety of product and types of alcohol that is based on consumer preference and not the decision of the store manager, or to not have promotions shut down because of a lack of marketing, such as the wine filling station at Normanview a while ago.
Locations that sell liquor should also be the only locations for the sale of tobacco.
The govt. should be increasing the cost of alcohol and targeting it, just like they do for tobacco.
I like the idea to manage the transition to fully private stores. I'm retired now and like to shop around for a deal. Thanks
leave the current situation as is!
The prices are ridiculous as of right now. Hopefully private stores will offer more competition.
The government does not have to "choose" whether to invest in liquor or "other areas", as liquor stores make money to spread to those "other areas". Just because government doesn't want to spend money to build a liquor store, doesn't mean it can't lease space. Quit trying to trick the public.
maintain the current system as it is now .status quo is not the way to go private stores will only make more money that could be part of profits that are now turned in to provincial coffers to benefit all Saskatchewan residents not just a few private retailers
Stop fooling around with the ideological issues--find some substantive ones like: foodbanks and the # of children, families using same; bullying prevention; improving seniors' care; stopping farmers from burning their fields; infrastructure and the like.
I would definitely be supportive of an expanded private retail system that would operate with fairness to the taxpayer, the retailer and consumer.
govt should be out of the retail sale of liquor completely
Let the private sector retail stores have it available like in the U.S. The gov't employees out of work can help our labor force get employees for other sectors! put more people back in the labor force for private enterprise!!
I found some of the questions to be ambiguous so I want to clarify my point of view. I think the Government of Saskatchewan should maintain liquor sales as a public service and should not continue to privatize this revenue. The proceeds of the public sale of liquor should be re-invested into public programs like healthcare, education, and infrastructure maintenance. Thank you and may GOD grant you all the wisdom to lead in the best interests of the people.
The current system is working.
Managed Transition to fully private liquor sales. One items I would like to see is Environmental and Recycle fee included in the price as shown so not added to price at purchase. Assume Government will maintain current revenue without high cost of current SLGA staffing and benefits plus cost of maintaining owned buildings.

liquor stores adhere to strict policy guidelines in regards to sale of alcohol. Government Liquor stores have policies and trained staff, and are committed to ensure sale of alcohol to minors is prohibited. if privatized, how does that affect general public perception on responsibility of sales to minors. it comes down to $ sales when privated. Liquor stores are socially responsible in ensuring public safety.
I think the government has a good way of raising money by selling a luxury item that most of us don't mind paying for. This revenue can be used in other areas, such as health care. My opinion is if the LBS is privatized, many workers will eventually end up being paid minimum wages, which isn't beneficial to our economy.
The sale of goods is a global market, online shopping is a fact. This only confirms that the market place is based on a competitive market. when I can travel to Alberta have better selection, competitive pricing at less cost how can a monopoly like sask be successful. Old thought processes expressed by many in this province with outdated liquor laws and outdated boards and bureaucrats is definitely not a plan for success. Likewise I might add our Liquor Control taxes and restrictions on importation as witnessed by the difference between Alberta and Sask from the US. We in SK just continue to lose revenue when you can simply return from the US through Alberta or go and shop in Alberta as many do.
My main fear is that our liquor stores will become more like AB which are disgusting holes that do not stress the knowledge of the product to their workers. Plus I found that you do NOT find the selection to be the same everywhere. I do not want to drive around town finding the best deals and getting the product I need. The only reason why I would even support a change is that Costco Brand Liquor is cheaper and just as good, in my opinion. Outside of Costco I would support Normanview LB just as much as I do today.
It was really hard to find this survey online. No wonder you've had so few responses!
Private is the way to go. Dont back down
I would hate to see the Gov't. lose all that money that they get now. We certainly need it with the oil prices so low.
ALL liquor stores (existing & future) should remain public!!!
Do not privatize this government will do anything to down size crowns
Stop the privatizing and work on the economy
Do not privatize!!
In my opinion, the government has privatized more than they should have. Government run services work and cost the taxpayers a lot less money.
Some of these questions are very misleading, ie investing money on govt liquor stores. These stores MAKE money, the question is invalid. Please stop trying to confuse the public.
I would only support private operations if they were open at the end of the current government owned stores hours of operation, much like the current off-sales do in a way.
I believe it should be privatized. There are more important things for the govnt to be overseeing.
Leave the gov liquor stores alone. You are pushing your own political agenda and not doing what is best for this province and peoples jobs. This survey also has a biased bend to it.
Imhave been to private liquor stores in Alberta and the prices are not much different. In some cases, they are higher. The servicee is not as good and the stores are not as nice...even the larger ones. Also, I have seen young people who look underage get served without being asked for ID. I also don't want to see more job loss in our province, or compromise the quality of our health care, education, roads and other aervices.
Please make sask liqour stores like alberta. We would not drink more alcohol but it would turn into a perk to live here. We don't have many perks to live here. I always purchase alcohol from alberta and from USA cause it's much cheaper. It's a perk to travel there because of cheaper alcohol.
the government should spend its energies on infrastructure and health/education. If it involves itself in retail businesses it would be better off running the strip clubs, then it could ensure the health/welfare of the sex trade workers.
Privatize liquor stores, it would save on gov`t buildings not mention other costs wages benefits etc. Plus the stores would have other products, one stop shopping
I think that the union should ,get out of these govt business , we pay for there pension , as tax payer ;I had to save for my own

pension & worked daily no sick pay etc; ,
I don't want to see the gov't race to sell off existing stores. I believe new stores should be private and that gov't should not be investing further in public liquor retailing. If any existing public stores are to be privatized, I wish to see that the purchaser be a bonafied Saskatchewan resident, and not have out of province investment acquire these strategic assets. I believe that the gov't can regulate its revenue, and retain strong influence over liquor retailing by maintaining full control of wholesaling.
Please privatize liquor retailing in Saskatchewan.
I would like our liquor sales the same as Montana or North Dakota. Buy your liquor at the same time you buy groceries.
Keep the stores public, the only ones that profit from privatization are the rich! The impact on rural communities could be far reaching. Families who rely on employment of the SLGA could be forced to move into larger centres to find decent paying jobs. This would then filter down to impact the rest of the community. For example, my spouse works for SLGA, I work as a RN for the health region in rural SK, we have 3 kids. If we should be forced to move this takes 5 people from our community who also contribute to the economy of the town, kids are in local schools, sports, etc. Not a good idea to privatize!
Where else will that revenue come from that we would lose if privation occurs? Why put that revenue in the pockets of private owners? We should not sell off anything that gives Sask. A profit.
i dont agree with the government wanting to abandon government run liquor stores. it is ridiculously short sighted to refuse to put money int bricks and mortar stores when the return on investment for the province is very good.
Put 3 children through university. Disturbed that my tax dolar pays a rediculous wage for government liquor workers salary. In my opinion no education required for job!!!
I recommend transition to private retail system similar to Alberta
Taxes are way too high.
I have no problem with private liquor stores as the government sees fit.
If liquor sales go private and the government looses the revenue it now enjoys from liquor sales, chances are we the tax payers will be expected to make up the loss of revenue. My taxes are high enough and I don't want or need an increase. This to me is one of the deciding points of who I'll vote for in the upcoming election.
-
Keep liquor stores government owned.
Lived in Alberta for 3 yrs, found that the wines I liked were almost always cheaper in Sask.
I think selling the liquor stores would lose the people of saskatchewan the same way selling of the potash has negatively impacted us.
I believe the government should give the liquor sales to the private sector. Although government jobs could be lost, jobs would open up in the private sector. In allowing the liquor sales to become privatized, the consumer would benefit in many ways including price and service. The government could still benefit through the tax system.
Too many of the questions are ambiguous or have a hidden agenda - i.e. "reinvesting" - with profits or sale of stores? This can be used any way you want - and answered for staying the same or . . . BAD QUESTION!!!! Also "keep stores that . . . meet " - if you don't read carefully and agree to "keep stores" a person who wants to have things stay the same and 'agrees strongly' does not realize that the designers of the survey will take this as 'agreeing' to sell profitable stores that 'do not meet' what could easily be stated as outrageous expectations. i.e. Saskatoon levels of sales in a small town outlet. IN MY OPINION THIS SURVEY IS DESIGNED FOR A SPECIFIC OUTCOME.
Go Private .. Getting tired of Unions.
SLGA employees are more professional, friendly, and know their products. The stores are also clean and laid out very well.
Keep the govt stores we have FOR SURE! Any new one needed should be looked at individualy as to whether they be private or gov't owned
I really do think we need to keep the profits from liquor sales in our province so we can continue to strengthen our amazing

province and people. We deserve to treat people right and we have a perfect opportunity to do so with liquor sales.

Say no to the privatization of liquor sales here in Saskatchewan. Considering the dismal results to our roads, the extra costs incurred, the loss of control over projects and lack of consistency when the highway equipment was sold during the privatization of Saskatchewan highways maintainance. Again, say no to the privatization of the liquor stores.

The current SGEU commercials against privatization make them less credible.

I feel that as long as that revenue continues to fund the essential things it does, liquor stores need to be gov run. we need to keep heritage sites,museums, parks and so on running for years to come and that takes a pile of money.

I support the Gov't retail experience. The staff are friendly, knowledgeable & clean cut/well dressed. These are standards I appreciate.

We just came back from Mexico and you could buy a beer in the local food store for 60 cents a bottle and we saw one drunk on the streets in the 7 days we were there.

do not give away revenue in this economic climate...not go private...also allow new sask liquor production to expand...ie Lucky bastard should be able to produce more product.

The Government can maintain profits by continuing to wholesale alcohol products but should provide more private outlets such as Sobies and Coop. Alcohol in grocery stores would be a welcome convenience. No more new Govt liquor stores.

the question asking about the importance of the potential changes to liquor retailing increasing the ability of govt. to reinvest in other priorities is misleading. i wanted to leave this one unchecked but it doesn't allow that so i checked the unsure button. if the govt lets go , the profit from the current system will not be there to reinvest if it is making money, as a taxpayer i want the profits from it to be used to move the province forward. imagine the profits if the potash had not been sold off. i was too young then to have a voice. govt. jobs are probably well paying jobs

no.2 and no.3

Private retail operations will still be subject to the laws of Sask, their employees will still pay income tax, and taxes on liquor will still be levied. High paying- low skill jobs will be lost. but they will be off he public payroll. The control of peoples choices should be left to individuals within constraints of the law.

Trading full time jobs in the government stores for part time no benefits, low paying jobs in private stores and giving up profit to the government does not make much sense!

I find limited product to purchase in Sask. as opposed to driving to Alberta to purchase products that are not available here. Also cheaper to purchase in Alberta.

I get a good selection at SLGA, and they have very good promotions that are beneficial to everyone (sale prices and contests). The staff are friendly and knowledgeable.

Private liquor stores pay taxes just like the rest of us.

I see a very noticeable difference in public owned liquor stores in alberta.Gov't liquor stores in Sk are much cleaner, more products, more organized, and informed people working there. We do not need private liquor stores here. Do not "fix" what isn't broken.

private is best as that is the beat chance we have of getting competition to help reduce prices.

Liquor store employees are just overpaid convenience store clerks.

Tired of my pocket book being by the gov when I buy liquor. The gov needs to get over it's addiction to liquor profits.

Although not everything in Alberta liquor store are cheaper you can always find good bargains and discounts there. Sask liquor stores mark something down one dollar and call it a sale. What a joke.

Boohoo and good bye to the Union and gov run and owned stores.

The Gov't doesnot have to agree with a host on radio who thinks he knows what all Sk think or should do.That is advertising at its worst.

Some of these questions are not clear (On purpose?)

You must also take into consideration job loss on economy.

If private can afford building and make profit, why not you. Stay away from P3.

Dislike money being spent to promote the maintaining of union jobs in television ads etc.

if it ain't broke don't fix it
I stongly believe there is absolutely no need for gov't run, high paying skillless jobs, typical shelf stockers/cashiers making $25/hr makes no sense whatsoever, that is TAKING money from other vital services. Private is the way to go.
I find nothing wrong with the way things have been operating all these years...
status quo
I believe the Sask. government should loosen it's grip on liquor retailing, and not rely on it so heavily for revenue. I think you should be able to at least buy a bottle of wine or a case of beer at a grocery store. Maybe even a bottle of hard liquor.
Quit wasting money at our government stores and get to privatizing our stores.....
I think it is time liquor stores were privatized. My experience with government stores is the clerks are rude and think we owe them a living. I will be supporting private stores in the future.
Keep it the way it is!!!
I think the Government should move to the Alberta model of liquor retailing asap.
if the sask govt remains as the sole wholesaler and retail is privatized I believe net revenue to the govt may improve when all the current overhead of operation is dropped ie wages and infrastructure cost.
What's the matter with the way it is??
public stores seem to have indifferent staffs more concerned with coffee and talking than serving customers
In rural the selection is limited I am very much in favor of private owned stores.
let private stores compete on a level playing field with gov. stores. If gov. stores had the same expenses as private stores, we know who could turn a profit.
Nil
the wages of the government employees working in the govt stores is far to high for their poor customer service skills and poor product knowledge
Any further expansion of liquor stores should be Government run, maintaining the current wage structure. High wages pay off in increased economic activity. Government owned stores should be modernized.
Wages paid to employees at government-run liquor stores are too high vis-a-vis the training/qualifications needed.
Ok you have privatized Land Titles, now you want to privatize SLGA, which Crown is next on your list? That is the question i would like answerred.
Travelling through western Canada, the U.S. and parts of Europe I feel that Saskatchewan has lagged behind. Other countries and provinces do not appear to have suffered from easier access to alcohol. I do not feel that government needs to be in the role of selling alcohol although it needs to maintain a regulatory role.
None
As a franchise operator in a small community, I want to see the continued support offered by SLGA, to enable us to continue to serve our customers. I'm all for the status quo. It is working, why tamper with it?
Govt jobs will be lost in several small towns and the profit from the sale of liquor will be transferred to private interests. I cannot see where small towns will benefit from the local grocery store selling liquor in addition to their regular line of products. Towns will lose tax revenue on the stand along property as well as tax revenue from the staff employed at the Govt operated liquor store.
Saskatchewan needs the revenue generated by public liquor stores. Since oil prices are tanking, the lesson is the government shouldn't just count on resource revenue.
Doesn't really matter who owns/runs the retail store, as long as selection is expanded and pricing is fair with reasonable hours and travel distance to the location.
I am tired of hearing about how great it will be to have the liquor stores privatized. The profit the private retailers take is what would have been profit for us in the province. Sure the wages the province pays might be more than what private owners would pay, but even at that the current system makes a profit. And we will loose that. and what advantage is ther to have the employees make less money, being paid by private owners? the more money there is being spent daily in a variety of services

and businesses as folks live their lives, the better of the overall economy is. so replacing a system where the province makes a profit and people get fair wages, with a system where we loose that profit and have citizens paid low wages is about as ridiculous as it gets.
I think the existing government operated stores along with private vendors in smaller centres provide adequate service. They provide employment with reasonable salary levels where the retail and service industry is to a large degree based on casual low wage jobs. How often do we hear about businesses that can't survive without without temporary foreign workers. I will be surprised if private stores will offer greater selection over the longer term. Retailing is based on product turnover and I don't expect private stores will be able to stock slow moving product that can the SLGA stores. The issue of using investing in schools, highways, etc. is not real. We are using P3 models with similar impact to debt financing except that they are not reflected in the budget. Building stores by the SLGA is a business investment carried on their books as an asset and paid off through future increase revenues.
The Brad Wall Government needs to STOP trying to break all the provincial Unions.
I realize the philosophy of the current gov't is to privatize wherever possible but in this case I believe the gov't. should maintain the main outlets as the current primarily gov't stores. I am not a member, nor have I ever been a member of any union. I have bought liquor in Alberta private stores and have been disappointed in the selection and the misleading pricing. When you go to the check out with the price shown on the shelf it becomes meaningless when they add deposits, along with several other charges that change what seemed like a lower price than Sask. prices turns out to be more expensive. I would urge the gov't to re -examine their approach and consider continuing with the current system. I normally purchase my liquor at the South Albert store and appreciate the selection, something smaller stores cannot supply. I understand small town outlets can't afford to supply a wide selection but I really like the South Regina store.
for saying the Government is not in the business of bricks and mortar but still ok to spend on power and cell towers but not for liquor board to compete for business.
The revenue produced by Publicly run liquor outlets more than makes up for the cost of operation. Your question about funding other areas instead of liquor is very misleading. The revenue produced will HELP to fund other public areas, not take money away! Don't take away Publicly funded Liquor sales establishments.
From personal experience, I like the Alberta system. The government gets the revenue at the wholesale level without the cost of maintaining a retail network. With respect to the quality of the private retail stores, the customers will quickly decide who does a good job and who doesn't. The poor performers won't be in business for very long.
Privatization doesn't sit well with me. Keep liquor public! I am a strong supporter of keeping Saskatchewan liquor sales and profits in public hands. Profits from public liquor sales — $252 million last year — are returned to our communities. They help fund the public services we all care about, like schools, hospitals, long-term care homes, parks, highways, and more. Public liquor sales generated more than $1.1 billion in profits for Saskatchewan people over the last five years. Why would we want to turn any of that profit over to a handful of private operators? I urge government to stop turning liquor sales and profits over to private, for-profit businesses, and to maintain and enhance our public liquor stores. When liquor sales are public, we all benefit
I believe that it should be in the hands of private stores
I think privatizing the retail section of the liquor industry is a good first step. Would love to see a full Alberta-like style somewhere down the road. Will always vote for the Wall gov't, common sense and a vision for the future
The government should not be involved in alchohol sales. It should be a private businness
Move to more private stores as soon as possible!
I think leave things as they are . We do not need job loses now . If it did privatize where does the revenue come from then. I know more from me and that is not acceptable.
Alberta
I believe that liquor sales in the province should remain as they are now. This provides the very best option to maximize profits. In turn this money can be used to benefit all Sask. residents in areas of health care, education, infrastructure etc.
I strongly support maintaining the existing public system AND adding more private outlets. Ensuring a positive experience while visiting a public or private store is very concerning to me and my family. Stores should not allow people to loiter and harass me

or my children if I visit their store. Private or public. There was a windchill into the -40's recently and following grocery shopping at Sobey's in Saskatoon, I needed to get in my vehicle, and drive a few hundred feet across the parking lot to the liquor store to buy wine for our meal. This is ludicrous. Grocery stores need to be permitted to carry wines and beer products in the name of pure customer service and convenience. Thank you for providing this opportunity to offer comments and participate in a survey. It was well publicized and completely necessary to continue moving the Province into the '90's.
Guarantee of stable life of Saskatchewan residents is very important. So the government needs enough budget to take care of health, infrastructure, education, etc. It is expected that the government may confront with shortfall of budget due to unstable oil price and economic situation. I suggest to reconsider once unstable circumstances are fading out.
I have always received good service from the Saskatchewan Liquor stores. I believe we have enough liquor vendors, don't make it easy for people to become drunks and a burden to the health care system. ALBERTA!!!!!! HELLO are you paying attention lately. There system is terrible. BROKE. I'm sick of hearing about Alberta, looks like they are sucking the hind tit right now. This whole questionnaire stinks of a Brad Wall privatization scam. We don't need to be ALBERTA!!!!!
alberta copies USA and you want to copy Alberta with liquor on grocery stores. Our province needs this revenue for our hospitals, senior homes etc. Do not privatize !
Keep profits from sale of liquor in govt keep jobs. Do not privatize liquor sales
Do not privatize liquor stores!
Does not make any sense whatso ever to transfer profits out from govn.to others like private sector who will not use these profits to pay for education,medicare,,etc.
If the government doesn't make as much money by privatizing it DO NOT DO IT
I disagree with the pricing on some private stores like ingredients in Saskatoon. The staff in the public stores require product training - for their salaries they are woefully up knowledgeable The special order system is not customer friendly - in fact that is typical of the whole customer experience in the govt stores - not client centred, helpful, perfuncoru. It is sad but the only time there was some customer service in the Saskatoon stores was when Cava was in operation and when it imploded, the attitude reverted back. I think govt liquor stores can provide good and knowlegdeable service ie Ontario and Quebec but the invest iner staff training, I doubt Sask is prepared to do that and therefore it is more likely a private store held to standards can
Keep liquor retail under government control. The taxes and sales go back into the provincial infrastructure. If retail stores were private, then profits would go somewhere else other than to the province.
Keep the Alberta system it works
We need to continue with public liquor stores, very few of the public ventures we have supply the level of revenue we collect from liquor sales. Plus once we get into selling privately could increase the level of under age access to alcohol. Staff in the private setting may not be as knowledgeable of false id identification, or trained as well in procedures of proper sales. Also if you make liquor too expensive crime could increase. If less fortunate people have an addiction to alcohol and cannot afford it, good chance they will steal to get it, could also boost black market, just like high tobacco costs support a lucrative black market for tobacco.
Private is not better and in fact we have revenue, quality job for Saskatchewan people and in the long run.....privatization will make Saskatchewan weak!
Keep the Govt run stores but limit some Grocery Stores to sell Beer & Wine at the same price.
I have a fundamental problem with gov't in the business of retail liquor sales. More private retail!
I am very much in favor of privatising liquor stores. The notion that privatising will put less money in our economy is hog wash, no one needs to make the type of wage our government run stores pay. You do not need a degree to sell booze!!!!!
Saskatchewan is the #1 Province in Canada for drinking and driving, the continuation of opening more private stores will impact more of these related issues. Also, the Sobeys and Coop liquor stores in Saskatoon ,actually effect private business sales negatively like pubs, restaurants, and Hotel offsale endorsements. Its too much accessibility with Alcohol especially in Saskatoon, your hurting Private business, and creating social problems with too much accessibility of liquor. The government liquor stores are profitable and they have due care and attention of safety towards minors or intoxicated and

yes they really do have a better selection in public. We are Sask, and we will really never be Alberta.....so maybe look at 5-years or 10-years from now.....keep it Public, the government liquor stores and the city police have a wonderful relationship. Dont give more problems to other private liquors or stop now.....and think what you are really doing to the Sask Way. Example: Sobeys liquor store was opened on Christmas Eve till 8pm.....and Boxing day from 10am to 10pm...and New Year's Day from 10am to 10pm..... Shame on you, You have turned a brand new area of Saskatoon to a severe problem area for the young generation, and all this has effected sales in Restaurants and pubs and Hotel with offSale endorsements in this area. I BELIEVE THIS IS NOT THE SASK WAY.... KEEP LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC WITH REGULATION, TODAYS AND TOMMORROW S YOUNG ARE NOT DOING THAT WELL, HOUSES AND RENTS ARE TOO COSTLY IN SASK. Thank you for your time. Your decision will negatively effect my vote if you privatized the government liquor stores in the election. SO KEEP ALL LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC !!!!!!!!!!!!!
Why sell something that makes the province $
I live in Prince Albert where alcohol abuse is a problem. I feel the government needs to maintain control over the sale of alcohol due to the negligence the majority of off sale outlets exhibit. The government also needs to maintain the income from the alcohol sales.
should remain government owned. They provide a great sevice and employ hard working Saskatchewan people
Expanded Government retail system is the only way to go.
I think the government should stay with public stores as an awesome way to make money for the province to help with education, health care and infrastructure.
I am a very strong supporter of government run and regulated liquor outlets. Alcohol is a regulated substance and should remain closely free of the potential pitfalls associated with privately run retail outlets. There is a far greater risk of underage purchases in private establishments whose bottom line is to make the sale to get the profit. I'd much rather have a well paid government employee at the cash register that will make sure they are not selling to a minor as they take their job seriously and are not influenced by the need to make the sale. As well the profits from government run outlets is essentially a form of user based tax that benefits all of us whether we are a consumer of alcohol or not. That profits from a regulated substance should go to anyone other than our government coffers has always been self-evident to me and I believe it would be a disservice to the tax payers of our province to have individual retailers profit instead of all of us.
I don't think the raising of price helps moderate alcohol consumption. I have strong views that lower restrictions can remove the stigma around something, resulting in less abuse of something, and that addictions are primarly caused by environmental factors. I believe that the privatization of liquor sales will not have a negative impact on the province.
Saskatchewan needs the revenues from the government operated stores not losing that revenue to the private pocket. We love Saskatchewan if I wanted to live in Alberta I would move there.
Questions are very leading in this survey. I do NOT support the privatization of any public service including liquor sales.
Give the putblic stats on alchohol abuse in sask versus other provinces.
The crime rate in Saskatchewan has a high enough crime rate already, we do not need a privately run liquor store on every corner or alcohol sold in Walmart fueling the crime rate even more.
Keep liquor sales in the hands of the government. We need all the profit to go into the hands of all the people of Sask. Not in the hands of friends of the Sask party. We need good paying jobs, not anymore Mc jobs.
Keep liqueur sales public to ensure local communities get a return on monies or funded sports organizations.
Quit selling off the assets that make money.Keep the loiquor stores.
the govt must keep liquor stores public whereas the public benefits rather if it went private, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, however I forecast that liquor will privatize because that's what this govt is all about looking after the rich, keep the poor poor whereas they can continue employing police, judges, social workers, correctional workers etc. the way I see it they should classify alcohol the same as marijuana, the argument is that there are social drinkers which is true but there is also social pot smokers that do no harm to society in fact is less of an evil than alcohol. these are my thoughts which policy makers, goverments etc will not see because they are well to do and do not see out of any other perspective than their own

I DO NOT want to see out of province ownership of Saskatchewan liquor stores . I am disappointed to hear that SCOBEYS owns one of the new stores.COOP is okay but I will quit supporting you guys if you sell off more of Saskatchewan to outfits that take the the profits out of Saskatchewan.We have people in the province to run and finance individual independant private stores where they are needed BUT PLEASE DO NOT give this money maker to big out of province companies or large outfits that can choke out individual stores and still take their profits to New York or Toronto . Think SASKATCHEWAN FIRST !!! Thank you !!

Selling off our public stores is a big mistake. They are profitable with good product selection and provide good jobs for the people of Saskatchewan.

The provincial government should not be in the liquor business. As a Sask Party supporter, I would hope that we follow Alberta's model along with a hybrid of the american model where Alcohol can be purchased in grocery stores all while lowering the cost and the government still receiving adequate amount of sales tax.

There is no viable reason why union wages need to be paid out to have someone stock liquor shelves. The argument that government owned liquor stores create safer environments and reduce minors from purchasing product is a completely false one. Similar programs such as mystery shops and retailer educational trianing/sign-off similar to that found in the tobacco retail industry could be followed.

Saskatchewan is still seen as a "have-not" product when it comes to keeping up with modern social conventions and ideals. Its quite shocking that in 2015 we still have as many crown corporations as we do, very to little private white collared opportunities for our university graduates to apply for all the while we still have archaic laws on items like liquor purchases, consumption and adult strip clubs. The Sask Party was a hope for change and a hope to move us into a more modern era that would put years of Union strong arming and left-wing big brother social agendas behind us.

Do the right thing, eliminate all publicly owned government retail facilities,follow the Alberta model and follow a 100% private enterprise to be established all the while sales taxes can assist more important government programming.

Keep our liquor stores PUBLIC!!

Open it up

No need for the government to have these stores. More stores, less overhead equates to greater sales and greater taxation for government and less people loading up in Alberta and not purchasing in SK.

Do not privitize liquor stores!!

I have lived in other jurisdictions that have privatized liquor sales. Privatization results in minors gaining easier access to liquor, loss of well paying jobs or revenue in rural areas and an increase in liquor store robberies.

The promised benefits of privatization never materialize. Not that anyone expects a political promise to actually be fulfilled but liquor store privatization increases social harm with a monetary benefit for only a very few.

And with privatization you rarely get beer and wine sales in grocery stores, a move that would make sense.

we should stay the same as we are, where is the funds that come from the sale of liquor going to come from if this is taken away. If the system isn`t broken why fix it. It seems we`re like a small puppy following the big dog, what ever Alberta does we follow thinking it must be right, well it doesn`t look right from this side of the fence.We should continue to invest in our stores and keep the revenue that comes from these stores to fund the other projects that will continue to grow in our Province. I can see the small brewerys want to sell there product by themselves, I don`t have a problem with that, but the rules are the same for everyone, when you start making different rules for different people that comes around and bites you in the ass every time.

I have no issue with current level of availability of liquor outlets and hours of business. Privatizing will reduce existing government job levels and most likely reduce wages as privatized operations tend to pay less.

To me, it's all about price. How can I go into alberta and get the same product (when it's on sale) for 30% less?

I worry about the loss of revenue for the government if liquor stores were to be fully privatized. It is one thing to support the business community...it is another to sell off a profitable government-owned corporation. Don't fix what isn't really broken....maintain it!!!!

Why would you throw away a money making buisness, that you can use the financial gain from to finance other projects? Why would you take away more public sector jobs that can provide a healthy living for my children? do not give away Saskatchewans future to other provinces when we can keep our children here with the allour of good jobs, and pensions!

All you'd have to do is lower the ridiculous taxes we pay on alcohol here! Do you think it has slowed down alcohol consumption??? NOT a chance look around for goodness sake! I can go to AB or the US and buy the same alcohol for drastically lower prices.....why then would I not buy out of our province/country?

Selection second to none at Saskatoon Sobeys. Government liqour store employees only there as easy secure job, not because

they are passionate about selling or promoting products.
I do not think governments can control drinking as much as they might like, the reason is there is always going to be people willing to purchase the products for minors! Unfortunately this has been the case when I was a minor, and from what I understand it still goes on today!
I think it is about time that we moved to private liquor sales. The puritan "we get to control everything" aspect of saskatchewan is old and outdated. The government needs to stop wasting money on debating this and advertisements about this issue. Just let it go. We are all sick of being under the old boys club that succumbs to the 70 plus crowd. This province is getting younger now, start to think younger, progressive and this is just one way that we can do it.
Stop privatizing my Saskatchewan...let all of us share in the profits, not a few private owners. We have many who struggle with alcoholism and need to ensure it is not overly affordable to abuse.
It is time that Saskatchewan quit being so backwards about how liquor is retailed. Could we stop being at he mercy of Unions stopping any forward progression.
I strongly believe that the revenue generated from public liquor stores is better for the province than taxation on sales through the private sector. I feel that the Saskatchewan government can definitely increase the variety and lower the pricing and still maintain profits. Nothing except prohibition will prevent people from purchasing alcohol.
Rather than merely maintaining the current level of public retail outlets, the province should draw on the expertise already developed within its liquor retailing system to invest in new retail opportunities within the public system. The current retail outlets serve to maximize the public interest in both generating revenue and ensuring the socially responsible distribution of alcohol; additional public outlets would achieve far more to meet the same goal than an increased private presence.
The government will get their tax money no matter who sells the product, Example the PST. Private liquor stores take a greater risk by selling to minors, government employees do not get fired[SGEU sees to that] and government liquor stores will not lose their licence for breaking the law!
The government should be getting out of the retailing of liquor
As a government, do not lose control or revenue from liquor as you have given up in other areas already. Liquor is not an essential but rather a luxury. If government revenues are reduced these will have to be made up elsewhere. on the flip side, the liquor stores must ensure that they are being operated in an efficient cost effective manner, like would privately. I believe that because these are unionized places of employment that the interest of the consumers are sometimes overlooked as some of the employees are better protected under their agreements where as in the private sector their work ethic would not be tolerated.
we are in Sask not Alberta don't follow their plan!
I think that the government will make the same money from privet sellers. because they don't have to pay workers or building maintanace.
I believe that it is time to privatize liquor stores in Sask.
The Government needs to focus its energy on supporting our healthcare system, roads and infrastructure. I understand that the Government operating liquor retail stores and controlling the availability of alcohol has been part of their mandate for years. This doesn't align with what the province needs and the government needs to adjust to support the province of Saskatchewan and its residents. Liquor needs to be provided by other retailers to allow the government to concentrate on more important issues to the province. This is a democracy, start treating it like one.
Alberta style or a mix of public/private retailing seem to be the best options. Having an RFP to give exclusive retailing rights within a geographic area would be extremely counterproductive and disastrous for both consumers and the economy.
Jobs and taxes lost when Ituna was closed but the alternative allows for better hours and the same selection, but the closure will result in the competitor closing.
I am very pleased with the service and selection I find in SLGA stores, the cleanliness and safety, and the professionalism of the staff. Having visited private stores in BC and Alberta, I don't believe the same level of service and good prices can be duplicated by private operators. There is no crying need for liquor privatization - our province has a lot of other far more important challenges on its plate, so why are we talking about liquor sales? I think you should put this on the back burner until you figure out how to deal with poor conditions in private nursing homes, for example.
Strongly support the establishment of private stores, availability in/near grocery stores. Would like to see wider availability of local craft beers, spirits, etc.
I think profits should and good jobs should stay in Saskatchewan instead of corporations who may not pay taxes or invest in the province.

Govt should get out of the liquor business. Make it private.
Government liqour sales are a cash cow of epic proportions? Why on earth would you even consider privatizing it?
Why would you get rid of a company that makes money for you.to support other things.
We lost our liquor store to a private business. We were pretty ticked off to hear this but the liquor was relocated to a private store and he is able to provide extra hours plus an awesome selection. We love it. Also our hotel has extended his sale of liquor and provides an excellent selection of chilled wine and beer. Absolutely NO complaints from us. Our govt liquor store had become a meeting ground for coffee & this was not conducive to all of us receiving the PRIVACY and service we were entitled to and appreciated. Good job.
All liquor handling should be private. I don't consider the "private" liquor stores we now have as private. If I owned a liquor store that would be private. Co op & Sobeys are 2 major conglomerates that are no different than having government ownership.
Alberta style.
As a Sask resident I am proud of the quality of jobs related to the liquor industry in our province. I dread having to make up the revenue shortfall when privatization happens, plus the jobs replacing retailers will be low paid, no benefits. It is time to address brew pub rules so I can buy Bushwakker beer at the liquor store. (p.s. I am not a SGEU member or gov employee)
I think the elimination of public liquor stores would be a detriment to government revenues stream and the addition of private stores will only see the profits that are made leave the province and pad the profits of large retailers. There is no added value to private stores as the large majority of the public is well served by the current system. The idea of wanting more variety via a private store is a red herring. most revenue in the sytem is derived from a very narrow band of products.
Just go private already. Quit wasting time and money on Government stores. Government should not be in the business
Please just make the change to more private stores. GET OUT OF THE WAY!!!!
Time to start being a province in the real world. Its 2015 already. Regina can't even get a law abiding strip club...its OK to keep that in the back alleys, just like it is with liquor people bring back from Alberta because SLGA will not sell anything different.
Privatizing liquor and increasing the amount of retailers in a province where the rates of alcoholism and drinking and driving are significantly higher than the national average would be a huge mistake. Not to mention the amount of well paying jobs that would be lost to low-paying private retailers. Offer a better selection and install walk-in beer coolers, because those are the only real beefs people in this province have about our stores. Keep liquor public please.
I believe Saskatchewan cannot support a liquor store on every corner. I have concerns of the private corporation putting money in their pocket for profit only. I have been in many Government liquor stores in the province. I have always received the best service and the ability to order any product that I may want. Based on stats I have read in the media, it is very clear Sask has a higher per capita usage of alchohol. How will the government oversee the responsibility, when the private corner store cashier is 19 years of age and his young friends are purchasing. As a parent this is very scary. All the owner cares about is the money in his pocket. I witnessed this a cold beer and wine store in Sask. I was disgusted with the peer pressure and the sale proceeded anyway. Not sure what can of worms the government is interested in opening. I would hope peer pressure isn't a factor in their decisions???
I am not in favour of increasing liquor outlets in Saskatchewan, not in any way at all. Sales of liquor increase medical costs, harm people's health, damage safe, happy home life, contribute to accidents and death, contribute to abuse of family members, influence separation and divorce, etc. Having seen some of the results of overuse of liquor, street arguments, deaths from car rollovers while drunk, watching friends wait by the door of the pub trying to get their dad to come home, seeing a young man in his 40's lose his life from over imbibing liquor, etc. I am not in favour of increasing availability of liquor in Sask. The government needs to keep the profits from alcohol to support our medical care. It's sad but true that the sale of liquor contributes to the cost.
The current level of government involvement in liquor sales is ridiculous when compared to almost any other western democracy. To suggest that the social impacts of alcohol are influenced by the governments invovment in retailing is laughable.
Alberta has had private liquor stores for many years and it's great! Lower costs and better variety for consumers. And I won't have to haul my alcohol from Alberta any more.
The Goverment should not be in the buisness of alcohol privatetize it now allow consumers chioce Allow more small buisness and selection
Keep liqour stores public so everyone may benefit from the revenues, also keep the government workers in those stores, because private industry will only hire minimum wage employees in their private stores and that won't help our economy on bit!

Already too many low paying jobs in this province!!
Personally I don't think the government needs to be involved in the liquor stores. Obviously some government regulations and laws related to alcohol are important. In fact, just go back to prohibition and ban it all again. Society would be much better off, and so would the government finances, for all the problems alcohol causes. Thanks for listening.
My main interest is that private liquor stores have access to a larger selection of products. As a beer drinker, I rarely have interest in purchasing a 24 of any type of beer, craft or macro. I am more interested in the options available for single cans/bottles of beer (1 - 6 at a time of purchase). Yesterday I was in the Sobey's liquor store n Saskatoon and was very impressed with the selection of beer in their cooler. I have already recommended folks that when they travel to Saskatoon (as I am in Regina), to stop in there on their way home. Needless to say, I will be happy when the Sobey's liquor store opens in Regina.
I don't see how gov't can receive the same amount of markup from sales through private vendors who receive a 16% discount on their purchase price -- where is the 16% coming from if not the markup?I agree the NET may be similar once gov't operating costs are accounted for. Regarding your question 'should gov't invest in other priorities instead of operating liquor stores?' I don't see where there will be more money available to invest, i.e. over & above current investments in public priorities. At best, revenue will be similar (ie 15% gov't operating costs eliminated in exchange for 16% discount to private retailers).
Government should encourage small micro breweries and distillers by making it easier to get product to consumers.
This government has not had a strong reputation in the labour sector or with it's treatment of crown corp. These are things that increase provincial revenue and the people who work at these venues pay taxes as well. The narrow minded one track methodology of this government astounds me
If there was 2.5 million profit at the SGLA last year, why does the consumernot know what that money was out towards. Being a frequent traveler to USA & Alberta, we gring at the price & having to buy all & any liquor in Saskatchewan
I think that the government is too regulated - they should have other options for retailers and then let the chips fall where they may - people will always choose cheaper prices because they don't see the long term effects of the social programs needed and maybe believe the government is not putting it where it is the most needed. All we see is the government profiting from it and not where the moeny goes.
Stop picking winners and losers. Treat it like the business it is and sell the rights to sell alcohol like the Feds do cell phone frequencies. That way only large stores will bid on available licenses and we won't end up with small liquor stores everywhere. I want Sobeys and Costco to pay for the write to sell alcohol... not giving it away for free to the Willow. Private retailers should be about convenience as a consumer (grocery stores) and increased revenue to SLGA.
I'm a regular shopper at the SLGA liquor stores. I find it to be the worst shopping experience compared to all of my other consumer shopping, i.e.; groceries, clothing, hardware, etc. Why is it in this day and age we need the government owning retail liquor stores? This is 2015 isn't it? Maybe we should have the government own all of our stores...oh yeah, that would be communism
I can understand if the consumption taxes are in place. Even though I think they are unnessary but to have government employees getting payed such an excessive amount to run a liquor store is mind blowing to me.
Let the market decide. Imposing minimum prices doesn't curb drinking. It encourages solvent and mouthwash abuse. Don't disguise a morality judgement by calling it a safety concern.
I don't believe that privatizing liquor sales will bring additional revenue to the province.
I have visited others out side of saskatchwan and have stocked up before returning do to cheaper prices and wide section . and not limited to the brands we have here and when you do order something you aren't required to purchase a whole case full
I am an advocate for responsible drinking and ensuring we have regulations about who can drink (age), where they can drink. That said, I have seen the US model with unfettered competition work well to balance the buying experience for the consumers and pricing. By moving the liquor purchase arena out of government hands you allow the government to focus on those items which need more focus - healthcare, policing, education. The wages and cost structure of government owned stores makes no sense to me. I own a family business and am on the executive team for a large scale business, as far as retailing goes competition and market forces should dictate. Nowhere in the world will you find someone stocking shelves with beer and making $20+ dollars per hour plus benefits - the job requirements don't meet the salary. I applaud the government for at least looking into the private retail option and seeking public feedback vs. union advertising.
I would like to see the sale of liquor privatized and I would like to see it sold in grocery stores and convenience stores. We are

allowed to buy smokes in corner stores, why not liquor? Both require ID verification. I'm not a frequent drinker at all but I still feel strongly about this issue. I think there are savings in operation costs for the government to get out of the retail end of the liquor business...benefits, salaries, infrastructure are all costs we wouldn't have to carry and cover.
Small towns should continue to keep licences at a minimum as per # of community members
No comments
I do NOT consume or purchace alcohol beverages, but I wished to voice opinions on the debate which is taking place.
Keep liquor profits in Sask, not in provate business person's hands.
The background information offered on"Government revenues and the cost of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan" was unclear. The first two sentences are phrased in such a way as to show no connection between the two statements. This is confusing, and fails to articulate the point of the information being provided. I see no reason for the government to discontinue a service that provides jobs and makes money. While I'm glad there is a desire to invest money in other areas of public concern, the potential loss of income to the government by privatizing liquor (with no guarantee of improved service to consumers, and a near guarantee of equal or increased prices) makes no fiscal sense. Government liquor stores have always seemed excellent to me, and part of a good system. Why try to fix what isn't broken?
Sell beer and wine in grocery stores but not hard liquor . I like our system better than Albertas. We should raise the legal age to 21 for gambling and alcohol consumption.
As an owner of a licenced fine dining bistro I would love a greater selection of beer and wine. Looking forward to changes.
The government should not build any more liquor stores should allow private operation including in grocery stores. I also strongly believe existing stores should be privatized.
I think a hybrid model would serve SK best. Maintain the current liquor stores and jobs, but allow grocers to sell it as well. I do not think there will be a huge difference in price or selection or convenience if we go private, so really the major difference will be a change in tax revenues and a loss of government jobs.
Enjoy shopping at liquor stores in Alberta and in the states
To me this step one in privatizing the crown corps. I strongly think free enterprise is needed to produce a stronger sask economy. Too many unions protecting government jobs resulting in poor service or no service to the sask people. If you think I'm wrong. Ph sgi with a Question and see For your self. Or why your phone bill is always More then the plan you paid for! Etc... Alberta has a Strong economy and should be our example !
I find the questions at times are not clear/helpful - they are skewed. It is not true that the government can spend more money on other priorities if it removes itself from the sale of alcohol...Proper involvement and oversight of the sale of alcohol has huge consequences for the well being of the population...it is not just about money. While having some retail outlets can help to serve some rural communities it is not necessary to do an either/or...doing a both/and can be helpful. Alcoholism is a serious problem here in Saskatchewan and the cost to the health system and social well being is rather significant. Access is important but it is not everything. At times government needs to regulate the sale of alcohol because we do not always do what is best or we make decisions without a full picture of what is at stake. Popularity with the voters (lobby group) is hardly a good reason for a government to abandon values. Any decisions taken should be taken not for monetary advantage alone but also for the common good of our society. Thanks for the opportunity to have a voice.
I find the TV Ads put out by the Union, to give very false impressions. The money can do the same amount of good for the community, regardless of who sells the items.
Allow franchises to sell domestic beer Such as Coors light,Pilsner,Budwieser. Get out of retail Govt Liquor stores Private store owners must be residents of Saskatchewan for a mininium of 10 years
All private. Eliminate Brick and Mortar. With revenue equal to current why maintain buildings, staff wages & benefits. Eliminating these should provide more revenue for government to apply to other much needed services ie. Health Care.
Lower the taxes. Everyone goes to Alberta for alcohol so sask government gets nothing. Absolutely absured being a have province with alcohol tax as high as it is. Higher prices isn't going to curb alcoholism it's a disease.

Don't sell operations that make money. Any government revenue that isn't income tax is a good thing.
Liquor retailing should be government regulated to ensure liquor regulations are being upheld, revenue is going back to tax payers, and have good employment provided in our communities. If liquor retailing goes private than government and tax payers lose control. Also the economic downfalls are extreme if employment is left in the hands of private companies that are going to hire less people at lower wages. Don't privatize liquor retailing.
The privatization of liquor sales is a horrible idea. The revenue generated by liquor sales is hugely important. The only way private liquor will be able to make a profit is to lower wages which just means you have big companies taking the money out of the province instead of employees re - spending their wages here. I know people say that alcohol is so much cheaper elsewhere, I haven't really found this, but the implications to these slightly lower costs are concerning (reduced govt revenue, lower wage employees, increased alcohol consumption, etc). Please, keep liquor public. Perhaps even work towards making it more public than it is now.
Please stop trying to privatize liquor stores. Most of the changes the government is suggesting (i.e. better selection) can be easily accomplished within the current system. Why is it so important for this government to have private individuals making money from liquor sales?
The current selection and availability of craft beer is deeply disappointing. I can drive to a smaller center in Alberta, such as Medicine Hat and get an exponentially better selection in a small store than anywhere in Saskatchewan, regardless of public or privately run stores. Our current alcohol system is greatly behind the times.
I believe we should continue operating government owned stores for the revenue they bring to the province. Going private will be harmful to our province.
There needs to be more private stores like Alberta, who can set their own prices and product selection. I always purchase alcohol in Alberta when possible.
We need the profits from liquor sales, not having them go into someone's pocket.
Stocking of shelves and working checkout do not need to be gov't position. Selection needs to improve to allow easier access to craft and niche brewers.
I feel the government should leave liquor stores to private business similar to Alberta or the US. Not support Unions.
I would like to purchase all beverages at the same location instead of having to make several stops to different stores at different locations.
I have concerns about loss of decent paying jobs with benefits for employment which is in the minimum wage range for employees without any benefits. Very regressive way to treat people.
I think all the liquor stores should be private. It would be great if small business (not co-op) would be given a chance to participate. The govt. would still receive the same amount in taxes. The govt. could sell all the liquor stores and get rid of all the high priced union employees.We have far too much Govt.in this province and I think we need to get rid of a bunch of crown corps. Brad Wall says that Sask. is open to small business. Private liquor retailing would be good for small business and save the Govt. a lot of money. Thanks for having this survey. .
I strongly believe we need to privatize more outlets.We do not need any more high priced union jobs.
Keep all liquor stores public. It keeps the money in the community.
I appreciate the private stores for their variety and for their occasional sale prices. I am frustrated that the government sets restrictions on the sale prices they can provide.
I have experience with the privately run stores in Alberta and do not find them to be any cheaper in several categories than in Sask. shopping in them does not contribute to Sask.'s economy or to the taxes Sask. gains to be used for health & education. What is wrong with having government jobs with decent wages and benefits. The employees in the private stores are not paid as well and therefore do not contribute to their home communities at the same level. We should be finding good jobs for everyone, not reducing everyone to lower levels.
Do not privatize any more of our businesses.
Private liquor stores should be allowed. No new government stores need to be built There should be no loss in revenue for the government nor loss of hard gained assets.

Government stores should be required/allowed to compete on variety of selection and product knowledge, not crippled to the advantage of private stores.
A mix of options and competitive enviroment
I DO NOT WANT TO SEE PRIVATIZATION TO MAKE A FEW WEALTHY! I THINK GOVERNMENT RUN FACILITIES ARE GOOD FOR THE TAXPAYER.
would prefer more expansion of private retail outlets
I believe the gov't is not losing money by being in the luiquor business and so why should they sell off a huge "cash cow" - we can use the earnings from those sales to invest in other areas. re-directing monies needed to operate the liauor businesses is not going to net a gain in the end. If they are losing money, that's one thing, but I suspect they are MAKING money for the government.
Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System would be my preference
I hope you think about the social responsibility that goes with the sale and consumption of alcohol. Totally opposed to this idea of privatizing the liquor stores. I voted for this party but am wondering if that was the right thing to do. You should focus more time and energy and resources on our failing care of seniors, highways, and waiting times in hospitals.....
Moved from Alberta....our experience of the liquor sales privatization was very positive. Owners/staff had to give good customer service or their business went downhill really fast. Just found a wonderful wine store the last time we were in Sherwood Park...what a treat to find such a selection under one roof!
Why bother with private stores. The government ones we have are great just the way there are.
I think the government should continue with the current model. Privatization would cost tax payers millions of dollars.
Keep it public. The province should have the benefit of the profits, not some private person or corp. The jobs lost will also have an impact.
Just leave as is! Thanks
I would prefer the employees selling liquor to have good government jobs. I would like the government to continue to be able to put profits into much needed programs. I think it is safer and you are more able to control the many harms caused by alcohol, if the government leaves liquor sales mostly in government hands.
The government should be involved in for police and fire protection, roads, education and healthcare. Anything else, they are competing with a private sector and that is not where government belongs. Private liquor stores would lead to better selection, as most products I purchase are not offered here in Saskatchewan currently.
We do not need any more "nany state" thinking in this province, NDP thinking is in the past. The people of this province are capable of making decisions for themselves. If pricing is to control greater consumption then the ones that need a greater amount are doing so a their expence and the governmment is profiting from their disease.
1 and 5
I would like to see our Government stores stay open, but I believe there is also a benefit to private stores being open at the same time.
I don't understand the reasoning behind the goverments wanting to sell or privitize Liquor stores. This is such an important asset to Saskatchewan and is a way to help pay for the important things in are province. When I watch the news All I hear is the goverment can't do this or that because they don't have the money, and here is a way to make more money but we want to get rid of it for a one time lump of money which will look like peanuts in two to three years. I would like to see more goverment run stores opened and less private stores so we get the benift and NOT the private sector!!!!!
We appreciate the selection offered by private liquor stores in Alberta; far surpasses the selection available in Saskatchewan provincial liquor stores.
Slim selection available here. Tough to get what I want. Very disapointed to see sask craft beers at govt stores in exactly the opposite corner of the store from the "beer" section. I think they call it the Saskatchewan section. Seems underhanded to me. Doesn't give the local microbrewery much of a chance. Alberta has great selection and so does even Manitoba?!? But sk selection is very poor. Support small breweries instead of taxing them so hard and making it almost impossible for them. And then hiding thier product in the corner!??? Very disapointed. The sask product should be on a fabulous attention drawing display right when you walk in! Not next to the liqueurs in the corner away from its proper section in the store. Very poor. We should be proud of sk product, and supporting it.
I would like to keep it as is. I don't mind paying more for the product when I know the money is going to things to support things in my community such as roads, schooling and other things. I'd hate to see thousands of well paying jobs disapearing due to

employees at these stores have good benefits and usually support their families with these incomes. I strongly disagree with privatizing liquor sales. I feel like there is too much to loose by privatizing these stores.
I think it would be foolish to lose all the revenue that can reinvested in health roads schools etc. if we make liquor stores public. Public stores are only in business to make money for themselves.
Would like to see a better selection of products and lower prices.
Privitizing LB's is going to reduce the pay wage for the citizens of the province, and also reduce the substantial profit that is brought in for the government. I think the gov should change how the LB orders, stocking more canadian wines.
Like other non-liquor retail stores they are open enough hours and probably too many. If the private stores are going to be like the current Willow Park store it is not a very great. At least with private Co-op stores the money stays here. How is the government going to get back lost revenue once they give it away?
Liquor retailing in Saskatchewan should remain the same with 75 government operated liquor stores. I live close to the Alberta border and I DO NOT SUPPORT THEIR PRIVATE INDUSTRY! In Lloydminster alone there are at least 19 stores on the Alberta side of the city. In my opinion you do not need to have a liquor store every time you turn a corner, private stores do not care as long as they make a sale. I choose to live in Saskatchewan because I like it here, and the way things operate with crown corporations such as SLGA, SGI, Sasktel, Saskpower, Sask Energy, etc. PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE WAY THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS, LEAVE IT ALONE!!
off sale should close by mid nite. too much impaired driving and other problems later in evenings.
Let's put the shoe on a different foot. Why doesn't the government have govt owned drug stores to control the sale of controlled drugs. Because it doesn't need to do this. The private sector does a good job of controlling the sale of controlled drugs. Why do we need the govt to sell us alcohol. Get the govt out of business and invest that time and money into better services for our citizens - not creating more jobs that can be easily provided by the private sector.
Everything I have read indicates no financial or social benefit to privatizing. Changes to regulations to benefit small breweries and wineries may be indicated.
We need to keep Saskatchewan people working, in good paying jobs. Anything less increases the burden on taxpayers and stakeholders. In the privately owned stores I've visited out of province the pride in one's work is simply not there as it is in our employees here. Saskatchewan simply cannot afford to lose the money generated from our LB's and our people cannot afford to lose any more jobs. Period. Thank you for this opportunity.
I just think that it should stay as is. They are making money doing this so why sell it.
We spend winters in Hawaii and are able to buy all our liquor at competitive prices when we buy groceries. I don't understand why free enterprise can't be allowed to run Liquor sales and distribution in Saskatchewan. No more need for government in this business than there is in the sale of tobacco, food or gasoline.
alberta
clear data needed.
Loss of re en us has to come from somewhere. If a crown is profitable, it should be maintained.