

2016 Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service

Krystal Aulie – Outstanding Agriculture Advocacy – Ministry of Agriculture – Leadership

As an Agriculture Awareness Specialist, Krystal Aulie has led the charge to improve public perception of agriculture. She is a key player in advancing the ministry's efforts in achieving the agriculture targets outlined in the *Plan for Growth*. Krystal led the development of a provincial social license framework, aligning ministry and industry efforts to help build trust in modern agriculture. She initiated a 'thinkAG' career promotional campaign and programming to promote the diversity of agricultural careers to young people. She also developed the *DiscoverAG* learning series to ensure her colleagues from the ministry are well informed about agriculture and the opportunities the sector provides. Through her hard work and leadership she has created lasting partnerships with the ministry, industry, Canadian Western Agribition and Agriculture in the Classroom that foster agricultural learning, keeping the Saskatchewan agriculture industry strong.

Sameema Haque – Saskatchewan Asbestos Registry – Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety – Quality Service

Sameema Haque consistently demonstrated the values of the government's commitment to excellence as she adopted oversight of the Saskatchewan Asbestos Registry, the first of its kind in Canada. There being no road map to follow for best practices, Sameema took on the challenge of implementing a completely new regulatory requirement in a short amount of time. She met every deadline and worked tirelessly to train, educate and support ministries and Crowns to ensure government fulfilled its obligation of transparent reporting and user friendly access to this information. She worked closely with public institutions and asbestos consultants to ensure accurate information regarding regulatory requirements was provided, and made certain that the new online registry was accurate and reliable. She continues to monitor registry data in order to ensure compliance with asbestos regulations thereby preventing asbestos exposure, and continues to look for ways to improve the registry.

2015 Wildfire Season Team – Ministry of Environment – Quality Service

Wildfire Management staff delivered exceptional levels of service over a period of six critical weeks during the 2015 wildfire season by working collaboratively, strategically and tirelessly to safeguard northern people and communities. Led by Wildfire Management staff, this significant achievement was primarily due to a cross-functional team that included other provincial ministries, wildfire agencies from across Canada and the USA, the Canadian military, stakeholders, contractors and community volunteers. The season presented the ministry with unprecedented and complex challenges with a direct threat to 25 communities. The volume of fires was 50 per cent greater than the 10-year average. Over 13,000 people were evacuated, eventually returning to their communities with homes, infrastructure and businesses intact. Staff in several communities remained on duty while under direct threat, and their efforts resulted in no loss of life or community, no major injuries and no major loss of infrastructure.



Self-Directed Funding Joint Committee Team – Ministry of Social Services – *Innovation*

The Self-Directed Funding pilot project, which ran from 2014 to 2016, was developed by a team of ministry employees and community stakeholders. This team worked together to design a new funding mechanism offering opportunities to adults with intellectual challenges options to self-manage funding, enabling them to purchase a variety of supports and services. Self-Directed Funding provides individuals the ability for greater choice over life decisions and the ability to select services that meet their specific needs. Decisions were made in complete consultation with stakeholders, embodying the true spirit and intent of the collaboration. This approach to person-centered services has had a substantial impact on the lives of those who participated. The ministry will now move towards the full implementation of Self-Directed Funding with the collaborative work of the joint committee continuing through this process.

Inter-Ministry Response Team to La Loche – Ministry of Education – *Quality Service*

Following the tragic events that took place in La Loche on January 22, 2016, a team made up of government employees from numerous ministries and colleagues from non-government agencies immediately responded to the needs of the community. Working tirelessly over long hours, the team's goals were to ensure services were available in counselling and health, trauma response, school administration, teaching, intermediate financial supports and housing. This team worked tenaciously, dropping their own work and family lives, to help the community begin recovering and to return the students to the classroom. The scope of this team's accomplishments is innumerable and ongoing, setting the groundwork for future short and long-term plans to create lasting change.

Swift Current Long Term Care Centre Project Team – SaskBuilds Corporation – *Innovation*

The Swift Current long term care centre, known as The Meadows, was finished on-time and on-budget in April 2016. The province's first public private partnership (P3), it brought together SaskBuilds, the Ministry of Health, and the Cypress Health Region with the private sector in a collaborative process. A participatory design process used feedback from residents, families, and staff to create a home-like atmosphere and innovations to improve care. Taxpayers also saved \$16 million dollars as a result of the P3 procurement due to lower construction and maintenance costs, the integration of project life cycle phases, and the effective transfer and management of risks. It was both a test and validation of the P3 model in Saskatchewan as it concerns the procurement of large and complex capital assets.