

Provincial Budget | 2023-24

## 2023-24 Kev Facts and Figures

Surplus: \$1.0 billion

## Revenue: \$19.7 billion, up 14.7 per cent from the 2022-23 Budget, comprised of:

- Taxation—\$9.6 billion
- Non-Renewable Resources—\$3.3 billion
- Net Income from Government Business Enterprises—\$529.1 million
- Other Own-Source Revenue—\$2.6 billion
- Transfers from the Federal Government—\$3.6 billion

## **Expense**: \$18.7 billion, up 5.9 per cent from the 2022-23 Budget, comprised of:

- Agriculture—\$1.4 billion
- Community Development—\$866.0 million
- Economic Development—\$367.4 million
- Education—\$4.0 billion
- Environment and Natural Resources—\$254.4 million
- Financing Charges—\$812.2 million
- General Government —\$540.1 million
- Health—\$7.1 billion
- Protection of Persons and Property—\$968.5 million
- Social Services and Assistance—\$1.7 billion
- Transportation—\$644.6 million

## **Key Revenue Assumptions for 2023-24**

- WTI oil price US\$79.50 per barrel (total oil and natural gas royalties \$963.1 million)
- Potash price US\$369 per KCl tonne (total potash royalties \$1.4 billion)
- Exchange rate 74.35 U.S. cents

# **Growth that Works for Everyone**

"The purpose of growth is to build a better quality of life for Saskatchewan people – to build strong communities and strong families – and grow a stronger Saskatchewan now, and for the next decade." – Premier Scott Moe, Saskatchewan's Growth Plan

This budget includes record investment into priority programs and services in health care, education, social services and the protection of people and property. That's growth that works for everyone.

## **Investing in Saskatchewan people**

#### <u>Health</u>

- **Record health spending of \$7.1 billion** primarily includes expenses of the Ministry of Health, the Saskatchewan Health Authority, eHealth, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency and 3sHealth.
- The Ministry of Health budget is \$6.9 billion in 2023-24, an increase of \$431 million or 6.7 per cent from 2022-23. This includes a \$191.4 million increase in operating funding for the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), bringing the total for the SHA to \$4.4 billion.
- This budget includes \$55.5 million, a \$44.9 million increase from last year's budget, in health care funding as part of an overall, Government-wide investment of \$98.8 million for the Health Human Resources (HHR) action plan to recruit, train, incentivize and retain provincial health-care workers and physicians.
  - \$22.0 million is allocated for 250 new full-time positions and expanding part-time positions in rural and remote areas around the province.
  - \$11.9 million will support recruitment of internationally educated health care workers and over \$5.8 million will be directed to the College of Medicine for new academic and research positions, new specialty residency seats and new family medicine seats, among other key HHR investments.
  - The ministries of Advanced Education and Immigration and Career Training have an additional \$43.3 million combined in investment into the HHR plan in their respective budgets.
- A \$42.5 million funding increase to the surgical wait time strategy in this budget, will provide for an additional 6,000 surgeries, to 103,000 in total, to reduce the waitlist to pre-pandemic levels by March 2024, one year earlier than anticipated.

- A \$39.0 million increase in this budget supports the health and care of seniors, including \$17.6 million to procure additional long-term care beds in Regina and \$9.3 million to support third-party long-term care providers.
- Included in increased support for seniors is \$5.5 million to hire 75 continuing care assistants (CCAs), the final phase of the three-year \$18.4 million Government commitment to hire 300 additional CCAs to deliver home care and support seniors living in long term-care facilities. A further \$6.3 million will support seniors, including increases for home care services and the expansion of geriatric services.
- There is a \$19.8 million increase in this budget for 64 permanent acute care beds, 36 at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon and 28 at Pasqua Hospital in Regina.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$8.8 million to enhance Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in rural and remote areas, with additional funding supporting contracted EMS operators and EMS system and radio upgrades.
- A \$7.0 million increase for more medical imaging, primarily CT and MRI scans, and a \$2.6 million increase for more endoscopy procedures are included in this budget to help reduce wait times for these high-demand services. The 2023-24 Budget also includes \$6.0 million to enhance intensive care unit capacity.
- This budget invests \$518 million into mental health and addictions
  programs and services 7.5 per cent of total Ministry of Health
  spending including a targeted investment of \$12.4 million over last year,
  representing the highest investment ever in Saskatchewan for these
  programs and services.
- The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency will receive a further \$2.9 million or 1.3 per cent increase in the 2023-24 Budget, for oncology drugs and additional direct support staff. It brings the SCA's annual grant to \$222.7 million, the highest ever.

## **Education**

• The 2023-24 Budget includes record investment of more than \$4.0 billion for education. Spending for education across government includes the ministries of Education, Advanced Education, and Immigration and Career Training and also includes Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regional Colleges, the Saskatchewan Student Aid Fund, and the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission.

- The 2023-24 Ministry of Education Budget provides record investment of \$3.1 billion, an increase of \$192.8 million or 6.7 per cent over last year, to support Pre-kindergarten to Grade 12 schools, early learning and childcare and libraries in a growing province.
- Saskatchewan's 27 school divisions will receive \$2.0 billion in school operating funding for the 2023-24 school year, up \$49.4 million compared to last year's allocation.
- The province continues to provide \$7 million to school divisions to maintain more than 200 additional full-time educational assistants hired since September 2021, part of Government's commitment to support diverse student and classroom needs.
- There is \$23 million in the 2023-24 Budget to support the start-up and operation of the new Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation (Sask DLC) for the 2023-24 school year. The new corporation will provide students with a consistent user experience and flexible learning opportunities no matter where they live.
- Students will have access to a wide variety of online courses, from kindergarten to Grade 12, and high school electives. Grade 12 completion and a variety of electives will be available to adult students as well.
- The 2023-24 Budget provides \$382.4 million for early learning and childcare, an increase of \$72.1 million or 23.3 per cent over last year's budget, to support young families in our province. This funding will reduce childcare fees for families of children up to the age of six to an average of \$10 per day as of April 1, 2023.
- The Government of Saskatchewan is investing \$764.8 million in the
  post-secondary education sector, an increase of \$24.5 million or 3.3 per
  cent, through the Ministry of Advanced Education. Giving students more
  opportunities to prepare for and pursue their careers of choice encourages
  growth that works for everyone.
- The Budget includes \$25.2 million in new funding as part of the multiministry HHR action plan, with Advanced Education focused on expanding training programs for key health professionals. Beginning in the fall of 2023, approximately 550 seats will be added across 18 health training programs to help address critical market needs.
- In addition, \$10.0 million will support the continuation of a 150-seat expansion in nursing programs and \$2.4 million will be used to help train internationally educated healthcare providers.

- The 2023-24 Budget represents the third year of a four-year funding agreement with post secondary institutions receiving more than \$697.4 million in operating and capital grants including \$431.8 million for the University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina and the federated and affiliated colleges.
- There is \$171.1 million for Saskatchewan Polytechnic, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies and the Dumont Technical Institute, \$35.6 million for Saskatchewan's Regional Colleges and \$58.9 million for capital projects and preventative maintenance and renewal throughout the postsecondary sector.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$47 million for student supports, a 24 per cent increase from the 2022-23 Budget, due to growing utilization of the Student Aid Fund and the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship.
- The Graduate Retention Program, the most generous support program of its kind in the country, will continue to provide up to \$20,000 in tax credits to post-secondary students who remain in the province to work. In total, the program provides approximately \$65.0 million in support annually and more than 81,000 students have claimed these credits to date.
- The Ministry of Immigration and Career Training will invest \$164.2
  million, an increase of \$9.9 million or 6.4 per cent over last year's
  budget, to provide programs and services to meet current and future labour
  market needs in a growing Saskatchewan.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$5.2 million to support HHR Action Plan initiatives in the coming year, including support for the expansion of post-secondary seats for future health care professionals, as well as initiatives to fill current vacancies through the licensing of internationally educated healthcare workers already in Saskatchewan.
- The funding also supports international recruitment and funding for the international Credential Recognition Grant, for certain expenses related to becoming licensed in a regulated healthcare occupation. The program will pay up to \$6,000 per applicant for costs such as bridging programs, language courses and exam fees.
- The Ministry budget also includes \$5.4 million to increase immigration through the Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program, support the influx of displaced Ukrainians landing in Saskatchewan and provide more funding for settlement services.
- In this budget, there is \$4.0 million to increase skilled trades training seats, primarily in construction-related trades, and \$1.2 million for

increasing the Apprenticeship Training Allowance for students living away from home to attend training and for an anticipated increase in apprentices.

### Social services and assistance

- The 2023-24 Budget for social services and assistance is a record \$1.7 billion. Spending for social services and assistance includes the entire Ministry of Social Services budget, as well as small portions of other executive government ministries and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation and Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes a record \$1.4 billion for the Ministry of Social Services, an increase of \$46.7 million over last year's budget, helping vulnerable people and families as they build a better quality of life.
- This budget includes an additional \$26.6 million in benefits to support people with low incomes, families, and seniors.
  - For the second year in a row, Saskatchewan Income Support (SIS) clients will receive higher monthly benefits. The budget includes \$14.3 million to increase the Adult Basic Benefit, the Shelter Benefit, and the Alternative Heating Benefit by \$30 each per month to help people meet their basic needs as they work to become more self sufficient and independent.
  - Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability (SAID) clients will receive \$30 more per month in living income benefits, representing an additional \$6.4 million in SAID benefit payments.
  - An additional \$3.0 million fulfills Government's three-year commitment to increase the maximum Senior's Income Plan (SIP) benefit. The maximum monthly benefit will rise by \$30 per month to a maximum of \$360, compared to \$90 per month in 2007.
  - A \$2.9 million investment will help make the cost of living in a personal care home more affordable. The Personal Care Home Benefit will increase by up to \$400 per month and SAID clients under age 65 who live in personal care homes will receive up to \$684 more per month.
- Government-wide, funding for people with disabilities is projected to be \$717.8 million in the 2023-24 Budget, an increase of \$38.8 million from last year's budget and \$502.9 million, or 234 per cent since 2007-08.
- There is \$6.7 million to support new clients and enhancements to existing services for people with intellectual disabilities, and a \$170,000 increase to fulfill Government's commitment to enhance

services for deaf and deafblind people in Saskatchewan.

- In this budget, there is \$7.7 million to continue to support two
   Indigenous-led pilot projects that provide supportive housing and
   wrap-around services for people experiencing homelessness in
   Saskatoon and Regina, and to provide continued funding for permanent
   shelter spaces and after-hours services developed with community partners.
- In 2023-24, the Ministry of Social Services will provide over \$400 million in funding to CBOs.
- An increase of \$13.5 million in this budget, includes \$7.7 million for service providers who work with people with intellectual disabilities, \$4.9 million for service providers supporting at-risk children, youth and families, and \$850,000 to approved private service homes that care for people with intellectual disabilities.
- The increase recognizes the critical role CBOs have in helping to create positive outcomes and better quality of life for Saskatchewan's vulnerable people.
- Funding for Social Services CBOs is part of Government's total \$17.6
  million increase for CBOs which are also funded through the ministries of
  Education, Health, Justice and Attorney General and Corrections, Policing and
  Public Safety. The increase helps organizations address operational
  pressures and recruit and retain qualified staff to continue delivering highquality services.

### <u>Protection of Persons and Property</u>

- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$968.5 million for the protection of persons and property. Spending for protection of persons and property primarily includes the ministries of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety, Justice and Attorney General, Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA), Firearms Secretariat, and Integrated Justice Services.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes over \$1 billion in investments in public safety and the justice system, when capital investments are included.
- This budget includes over \$27.5 million in interpersonal violence supports and services. It includes new investment of \$876,000 over three years to support survivors of interpersonal violence with the expansion of counseling services for clients living in second stage housing.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$1.3 million to improve access to quality justice and legal services by reopening Weyburn Court of King's Bench

and the Lloydminster Provincial Court with fully operational registry offices open to the public. Service will also be improved, with \$150,000 to hire two additional employees for Saskatoon's Court of King's Bench Registry Office.

- The 2023-24 Budget invests in police and law enforcement initiatives including \$7.0 million to establish the new Saskatchewan Marshals Service (SMS) to increase policing capacity within the province with a focus on rural and remote areas.
- When fully operational by mid-to-late 2026, the SMS will have approximately 70 officers, providing an additional law enforcement presence across Saskatchewan, supporting RCMP and municipal police operations where appropriate.
- This budget also includes \$3.2 million to expand the Warrant Enforcement and Suppression Team (WEST) and the Crime Reduction Team (CRT).
  - An investment of \$1.6 million in this budget will establish a new WEST
    unit in Prince Albert, with eight RCMP officers and administrative support
    to target offenders who represent a significant threat to public safety. The
    new unit is the third in Saskatchewan, the first two began operations in
    Saskatoon and Meadow Lake in April of 2022.
  - This budget also includes \$1.6 million for a new CRT unit to be established in the Battlefords region, with eight RCMP officers and administrative support to target street gangs and prolific offenders. The expansion increases the total number of CRT units in the province to ten.
- This budget also includes \$147,000 to enhance the Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) unit.
- The province continues to support initiatives to reduce the criminal use of firearms while protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners through the Saskatchewan Firearms Secretariat. This budget includes \$7.4 million to administer the *Firearms Act*, which includes licensing, storage, transportation and carrying of firearms.
- The SPSA has a budget of \$91.8 million for 2023-24, to help protect the people of the province and create safe, strong communities. This budget includes investment to provide support flights to people coming from war torn Ukraine, investment for the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program which is being consolidated under the SPSA, and for a new two-year term

position to develop and oversee the restart of the Parkland College firefighting training program in Melville.

## **Investing in the economy**

- The 2023-24 Budget includes a \$1.4 million increase to open a trade office in Germany the fourth largest economy in the world and the economic, financial, and manufacturing hub of the European Union.
- Together with funding to support trade with the United States, it brings the International Trade and Investment Strategy to \$19.3 million, managed by the Ministry of Trade and Export Development. The strategy advances the province's economic interests abroad, collaborating with partners including the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership, and operating the province's international office network.
- Saskatchewan's expanded international presence includes existing trade offices in the United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, Vietnam, Japan, India, Singapore and China.
- Officials in these offices connect Saskatchewan businesses with investors and customers, encouraging foreign direct investment and giving exporters an advantage with on the ground year-round support from qualified officials who understand the local business culture, rules and regulations in key markets.
- Those efforts are paying off. Saskatchewan's merchandise exports rose from \$37.0 billion in 2021 to \$52.4 billion in 2022 an increase of 41.6 per cent. More exports abroad means more jobs here at home. That's growth that works for everyone.
- The Ministry is extending the Saskatchewan Manufacturing and Processing Exporter Tax Incentive until December 31, 2023. The incentive provides non-refundable tax credits to eligible corporations that increase the number of manufacturing and processing-related full-time employees above the baseline in 2014.
- The 2023-24 Budget builds on Saskatchewan's position as a global leader in the exploration and mining of critical minerals. Saskatchewan has occurrences of 23 of the 31 critical minerals on the Canadian Critical Minerals List, including many world class deposits.

- The Ministry of Energy and Resources is enhancing existing programs to drive investment in Saskatchewan critical minerals exploration projects. This budget commits \$4.0 million to expand the Targeted Mineral Exploration Incentive, to include exploration drilling for all hard-rock minerals and increase the funding limit to support the development of these emerging commodities.
- The Saskatchewan Mineral Exploration Tax Credit has also been increased from 10 to 30 per cent to help attract additional mineral exploration investment in Saskatchewan. The increase makes Saskatchewan more competitive with British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec – jurisdictions with similar programs.
- This budget includes a \$725,000 increase for the Ministry of Environment to support the mining industry by undertaking an evaluation for improving the process for exploration permits and to reduce existing permitting times for mining and other sectors.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$548.2 million for the Ministry of Agriculture, a 19 per cent increase from the previous year's budget, to fund programs, services and agricultural research as well as providing business risk management programs.
- This budget has \$89.8 million for strategic initiatives, including a record \$38 million for agricultural research and innovation. Programs are being finalized to launch this year under the new five-year federalprovincial Sustainable Canada Agricultural Partnership.
- In this budget \$408 million funds a suite of federal-provincial risk management programs including Crop Insurance and AgriStability. Average Crop Insurance coverage for 2023 is at a record-high level of \$446 per acre due to increased commodity prices and yield coverage. The AgriStability compensation rate will increase from 70 to 80 per cent for the 2023 program year, to better support farmers in times of need.
- In the 2023-24 Budget, through the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, \$14.0 million will fund construction of a group pavilion at Rowan's Ravine Provincial Park for large or multi-group gatherings and a new Visitor Reception Centre at Crooked Lake Provincial Park to enhance customer service and visitor information. Several projects in Saskatchewan's Provincial Parks include improvements to common areas, washrooms and shower facilities.

- Funding will also complete a 40-site serviced campground at Meadow Lake Provincial Park and will continue to expand family-friendly activities and programs that enhance visitor experiences.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes an increase of \$2.0 million for the Creative Saskatchewan Production Grant Program for film and television, bringing the total funds available to \$12.0 million. The 20 per cent increase in base funding, through the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, is the second in two years and follows an \$8.0 million increase last year, to help draw more and larger projects to the province.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes the highest level ever of Municipal Revenue Sharing \$297.9 million, an increase of \$35.3 million, or 13.4 per cent, from last year's budget.
- Municipal Revenue Sharing in 2023-24 is up 134 per cent over the 2007-08 fiscal year.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$503.0 million of direct provincial support to municipalities, an increase of \$54.5 million or 12.2 per cent over last year's budget, primarily due to higher revenue sharing, the province's portion of infrastructure funding and a number of grants and initiatives from multiple Government ministries.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$249.1 million in targeted funding for Indigenous and Métis people and organizations, representing an increase of more than 6.8 per cent from last year.
- The Active Families Benefit continues to help keep life affordable for families by providing \$150 per child enrolled in sport, recreation and cultural activities. The benefit provides an extra \$50 per child to families of children with a disability.
- Saskatchewan has among the lowest personal taxes in the country.
- Since 2007, provincial Personal Income Tax (PIT) exemptions have removed 112,000 people from the province's income tax roll. In total, PIT reductions introduced over the past 16 years are providing over \$760 million in annual income tax savings to Saskatchewan people.
- A Saskatchewan family of four with \$100,000 in total income pays \$2,443 less in combined PIT and sales tax in 2023, compared to 2007.

- A family of four pays no provincial PIT on their first \$56,550 of combined income. This is the highest tax-free threshold in Canada and more than twice as much as in 2007, when a family of four began paying provincial income tax once their combined income reached just \$26,150.
- Overall Saskatchewan is the most affordable place in Canada when taxes, utilities and housing costs are compared across the country.
- A family with two adults, two dependent children, owning their own home with annual family income of \$75,000, \$100,000 and \$125,000 have the lowest combined totals paid for taxes, utilities and housing.
- A single person living in a rental accommodation, with an annual income of \$40,000 ranks second across the country in affordability.

# **Investing in capital for a growing Saskatchewan**

- With a record \$3.7 billion included in the 2023-24 Budget, \$43.3 billion has been invested into capital through Crowns and Executive Government since 2008-09. Saskatchewan's \$15.2 billion planned investment into capital over the next four years is growth that works for everyone, on track to meet *Growth Plan* goals.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$337.6 million for health care capital, a \$181.0 million increase, or 115.6 per cent.
  - Highlights include \$207.1 million for ongoing health infrastructure projects, including \$98.6 million for the Prince Albert Victoria Hospital, \$38.0 million for the Weyburn General Hospital replacement, \$20.0 million for La Ronge long-term care, and \$10.0 million for specialized long-term care bed replacements.
  - There is \$10.0 million in this budget for urgent care centres in Regina and Saskatoon, \$10.0 million for Grenfell long-term care and \$2.6 million for planning for a number of projects, including Rosthern Hospital, Battleford and District Care Centre, and an Integrated Care Facility in Esterhazy.
  - This budget also includes a \$300,000 increase, bringing the total to \$500,000, to continue planning for the Yorkton Regional Health Centre replacement. There is also \$71.5 million for health sector maintenance and \$59.0 million for information technology and equipment.

- Since 2008-09, over \$2.4 billion in investment into health care facilities
  has built new hospitals, including the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital,
  Saskatchewan Hospital North Battleford, the Dr. F.H. Wigmore Hospital
  in Moose Jaw and 15 new long-term care facilities across the province.
- In 2023-24, the Government of Saskatchewan will invest \$776 million into operating, maintaining, building, and improving the province's roads and highways through the Ministry of Highways.
- The 2023-24 Budget invests \$442.9 million into transportation capital.
  - This includes over 1,000 kilometres of improvements on provincial highways, for a total of 4,600 kilometres of highways improved over the past four years, on track to meet the *Growth Plan* commitments to upgrade and build 10,000 kilometres of the provincial highway network by 2030.
  - Significant construction projects include beginning construction of twinning projects near Rowatt and Corinne on Highways 6 and 39 between Regina and Weyburn. There is support for expansion of the forestry industry through investments in gravel, pavement and road maintenance in northern Saskatchewan.
  - This budget also includes investment to begin upgrades to Highway 15 east of Kenaston between Highways 11 and 2, completing passing lanes and widening on Highway 5 from Saskatoon to Highway 2 and planning for construction to extend twinning on Highway 5 east of Saskatoon.
- With this year's budget, more than \$12 billion has been invested into transportation infrastructure since 2008, improving more than 19,400 kilometers of provincial highways.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$152.3 million for education capital.
  - There is \$4.4 million to begin planning five new school capital projects including a new Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) school to replace and consolidate the elementary school in Carlyle, and a new K-12 Francophone school to replace Ecole Valois in Prince Albert. Funding is also included in this budget for a new Francophone Elementary School in Saskatoon, renovations and expansion of Greenall High School in Balgonie and renovations to Campbell Collegiate in Regina.

- o The budget includes \$115.7 million to support the ongoing planning and construction of 15 new schools and the renovation of five existing schools, as well as \$16 million, an increased investment of \$4 million to buy or move relocatable classrooms for the 2024-25 school year.
- This budget also provides \$11.3 million for the minor capital renewal program that will allow school divisions to address structural repairs, renovations, and additions to prolong the life of schools across the province. Three new projects include consolidation of the elementary school into the high school in Kelvington, renovations to St. John Community School in Prince Albert and renovations to Medstead Central School.
- Two ongoing projects include renovations to Kyle Composite School and Ecole St. Margaret School in Moose Jaw.
- Since 2008-09, approximately \$2.4 billion has been committed to build 60 new schools and to undertake 30 major renovation projects.
- The 2023-24 Budget incudes \$338.0 million in government services infrastructure.
  - o It incudes \$85.6 million for various dams, water supply channels and irrigation projects aligned with *Growth Plan* goals to increase irrigation and water management in Saskatchewan.
  - The budget includes \$97.4 million for courts and corrections capital, including \$75.4 million for the continued construction of the Saskatoon Remand Centre.
- The 2023-24 Budget includes \$348.1 million for municipal infrastructure.
  - This includes \$265.1 million under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, \$72.2 million through the Canada Community-Building Fund, \$9.3 million through the New Building Canada Fund and \$1.5 million in other small programs.
- Advanced Education will invest \$58.9 million in 2023-24 including equipment and renovations for expanded health training programs, in support of the HHR action plan, planning and design work for the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Saskatoon Campus Renewal, University of

Saskatchewan Dental Clinic renovations and ongoing capital maintenance. Other investments include University of Saskatchewan electrical and mechanical infrastructure upgrades.

# • In 2023-24, Crown corporations will invest \$2.1 billion into major capital.

- This includes \$1.2 billion by SaskPower to improve the province's electricity system to meet demand and maintain reliability. This includes continued construction of the Moose Jaw Great Plains natural gas-fired electrical plant and upgrades to the EB Campbell hydroelectric station near Nipawin and to the Ermine natural gasfired electrical plant near Kerrobert.
- SaskEnergy is investing \$341.2 million in the province's natural gas distribution system, including expansion of the transmission system to meet increased demand in a growing province and ensure safe, reliable and affordable services to customers.
- In this budget, SaskTel is investing \$412.7 million to improve its networks dedicated to being the best at connecting people to their world. Investments include continued deployment of fibre to rural customers and modernization through the rollout of SaskTel's 5G network.
- Saskatchewan's Crown corporations have invested more than \$24
  billion into capital since 2008 to improve power generation, transmission
  and distribution, telecommunications networks and natural gas
  transportation and distribution, and water and wastewater systems among
  many other projects.