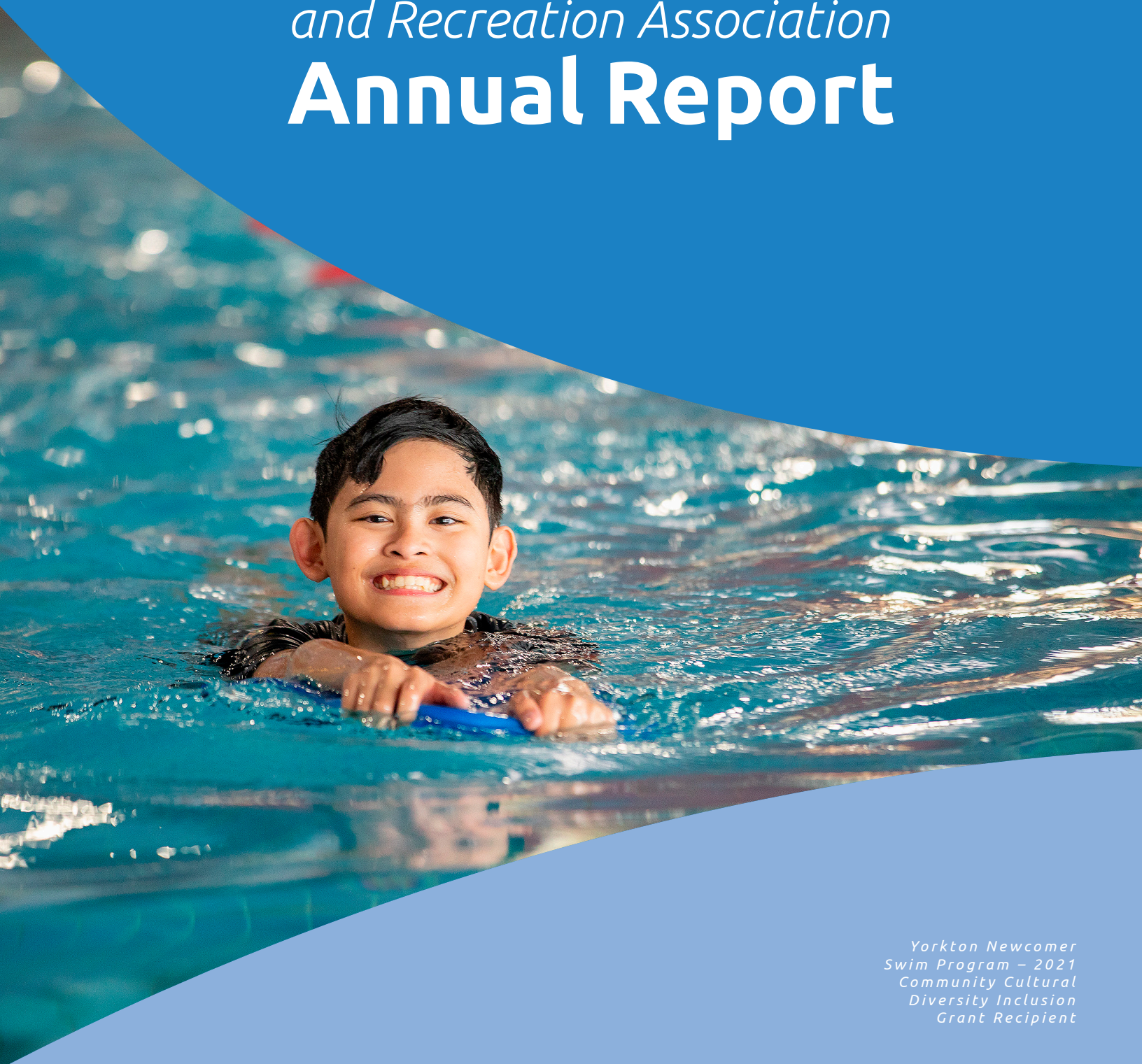




2021-2022

*Saskatchewan Parks
and Recreation Association*
Annual Report



*Yorkton Newcomer
Swim Program – 2021
Community Cultural
Diversity Inclusion
Grant Recipient*

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We are all Treaty people.

The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association's programs, services and support reach lands covered by Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10, the Traditional Territories of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Lakota, Nakota and Saulteaux peoples, and homeland of the Métis.

This land has been part of the lives of Indigenous peoples long before our organization existed and continues

to be now and into the future. We extend our gratitude to those who have called this ancestral land home for generations, and whose histories, languages and cultures continue to influence our communities.

We respect and honour the Treaties, reaffirm our relationships with one another and move forward together in the spirit of truth, reconciliation and collaboration.

About SPRA

SPRA is a network of recreation leaders dedicated to energizing Saskatchewan and changing lives. We imagine a province where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy recreation and feel more connected to nature, our communities and ourselves.

It's our job to connect, educate and inspire others to build this future together.

We're empowered to succeed through funding support from Sask Lotteries.

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 Facebook

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2021-2022

Board of Directors

Jody Boulet

President

Tonia Logan

Director for the North

Amy Kent

Director for Cities

Chelsea Corrigan

Director for Towns

Taylor Morrison

Director for Villages

Jennifer Burgess

Director at Large

Heidi Carl

Director at Large

Dean Dodge

Director at Large

Larry Hall

Director at Large



2021-2024

Strategic Focus





President Jody Boulet
hiking Signal Hill

President's Message

Hello members, stakeholders, partners and friends,

As I wrap up my first year as SPRA Board of Directors' President, I'm reflecting on what a great year it has been, and I'm excited about what's on the horizon for both SPRA and Saskatchewan's recreation and parks industry.

At SPRA, 2021-2022 has been a year of renewed strategic focus. We have made a shift in how we think, act and communicate as an organization, focusing on our Core Mission: To provide the leadership, support and services that contribute to recreation's impact on the quality of life for the people of Saskatchewan. We do this by ensuring that all our services connect, educate and inspire recreation and parks professionals, practitioners, community leaders and volunteers. We offer consulting, training, funding and networking services, and support those offerings through public relations, business operations and planning.

In the past fiscal year, we've become more intentional, strategic and focused on what we do. If we can't make a direct link between a program or service and making life better for the people of this province, we've identified ways to either strengthen that connection or adjusted our approach. Some of the ways we've doubled down on our commitment to our purpose this year includes hosting inclusion and access webinars, creating new partnerships to grow our network; like the JRPM Park Pass Lending Pilot Program; and distributing just over \$6.8 million to the parks and recreation industry.

As always, we are proud of what we've accomplished, but recognize that recreation's impact on the quality of life happens on the ground in communities, mobilized by professionals, practitioners, community leaders and volunteers like you. By working together, we enhance quality of life for the people of Saskatchewan, and I am looking forward to what's to come for our industry and the people we serve. The importance of recreation and parks as a public good has never been more apparent, and as we finally (and hopefully) come out of the pandemic, I believe we are embarking on a renewed age of parks and recreation.

Jody Boulet
SPRA President

Sask Lotteries

A Fundraiser for Sport, Culture and Recreation

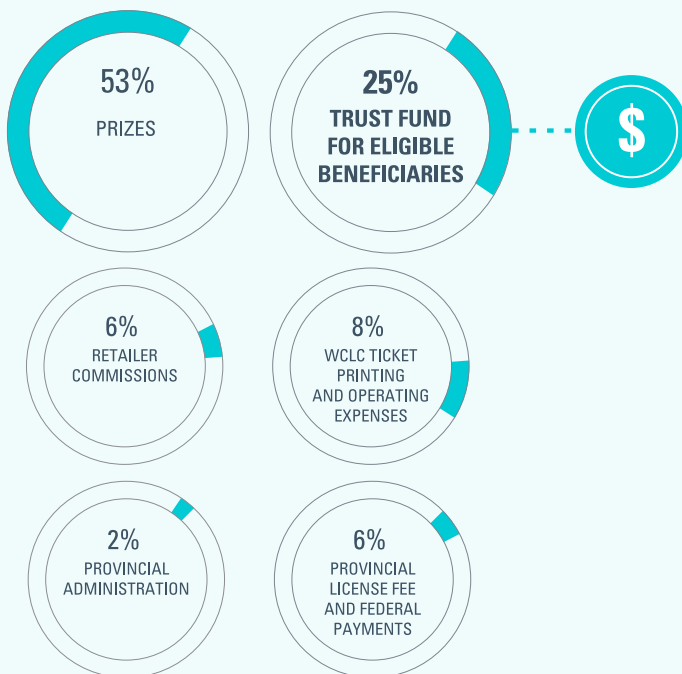
The recreation and parks industry provides a foundation of facilities, environments, programs and human infrastructure that is integral to quality of life in our province, but we don't go about this work alone.

Sask Sport operates Sask Lotteries through a licensing agreement with the Government of Saskatchewan. Lottery proceeds are allocated to eligible sport, culture and recreation groups through the Sask Lotteries

Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. Volunteer committees at Sask Sport, SaskCulture and the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association oversee the Fund to ensure accountability and transparency.

This funding benefits 1,200 organizations, like the Saskatchewan 4H Council Inc. and Canadian Mental Health Association (Saskatchewan Division) Inc.

These groups support a wide range of activities and promote opportunities for participants of all ages and abilities to play, create and grow. They help us to connect and get active, experience arts and culture and enjoy parks, public spaces and activities that build vibrant communities. We are grateful to be a beneficiary and part of a network that cares about the same things we do.



As a non-profit organization, Sask Lotteries operates effectively and efficiently to maximize the proceeds available for funding.





Beneficiary Story: Building Inclusive Communities

— Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM) is one of the 1,200 organizations that receive funding from Sask Lotteries. They work with community leaders and organizations to improve the quality of life for older adults across Saskatchewan.

They are the catalysts behind an initiative addressing age-friendly communities. The movement, established by the World Health Organization, focuses on inclusion. When communities undertake activities or create programming that's more inclusive of older adults, they create communities that are more inclusive of all people.

As Holly Schick, Executive Director of the SSM explains, "Age Friendly Communities are all about keeping people physically active and involved in recreational activities, socially involved and involved in decision-making."

The SSM is currently engaging representatives in 11 Saskatchewan communities, including Humboldt, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Regina, who are working towards becoming more age friendly.

These discussions focus on many aspects of life within the community, including outdoor spaces and

buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, employment and community support and health services, among others. This sense of community has been increasingly important coming out of the pandemic, as evidenced by the initiative really taking off in the last year.

Age Friendly Communities isn't just a project, it's a concept and approach that uses an 'age-friendly lens' to assess everything we do. Even the smallest of actions, like clearing our sidewalks, can make our communities safer, more active, and inclusive spaces for everyone.



Training Highlights

Training and education opportunities form a large portion of our service offerings. We are champions of personal development and take great pride in helping to shape leaders in the recreation industry. Last year we were pleased to resume in-person training sessions, while continuing to offer virtual learning and education sessions for those who preferred the option.

145

**attendees
at SaskFit**

11 sessions by
9 presenters

114

**attendees at the
2021 SPRA Conference**

5 sessions by
12 guest speakers

555

**registrants in HIGH
FIVE® and Play
Leadership Courses**

286

fitness leaders

provided
programming to
16,084 people

102

**attendees at Spring
Training Symposium**

offering 11 courses
over 5 days

356

**participants
in SPRA
delivered
training:**

43

**leader training
participants**

Forever... in *motion*

24

**youth leaders
trained**

Take the Lead!@

146

**training
participants**

Recreation Facility

31

**training
participants**

Parks and
Open Spaces

112

**training
participants**

Fitness Leadership
Courses

Training Story:

A Partnership in Health: Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative

Our relationship with the Federal Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI) has grown since our first conversations back in 2018. This Initiative facilitates physical activity programming in First Nation communities across our province and that is work that we are mutually passionate about!

Based on this shared goal, ADI partnered with us to host a Forever...in *motion* (FIM) Leader and Trainer training. The FIM program helps people be more physically active in their community through volunteer, peer or staff-led physical activity groups.

Eight staff, varying from registered dietitians, nurses and health educators, were trained this year as FIM leaders. Fifty percent of these leaders went on to complete the FIM Trainer Training, which equips them with the skills and resources they need to train others to lead physical activity programs in their respective communities, which include: Saskatoon Tribal Council, James Smith Cree Nation, Onion Lake First Nation, Cowessess First Nation, Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, Prince Albert Grand Council and Carry the Kettle First Nation.

These leaders are truly LEAD-ing by example. They are role models inspiring others to be physically active in order to reap the many social and health benefits that come along with active lifestyles.

Testimonials:

"I was unsure about the virtual Conference experience, but I am so glad that I did it. My 5-year-old son played beside me while I listened to sessions and I love that he got to be immersed in the culture of wellness and learning — we had several conversations around what he had heard!"

- SaskFit Attendee

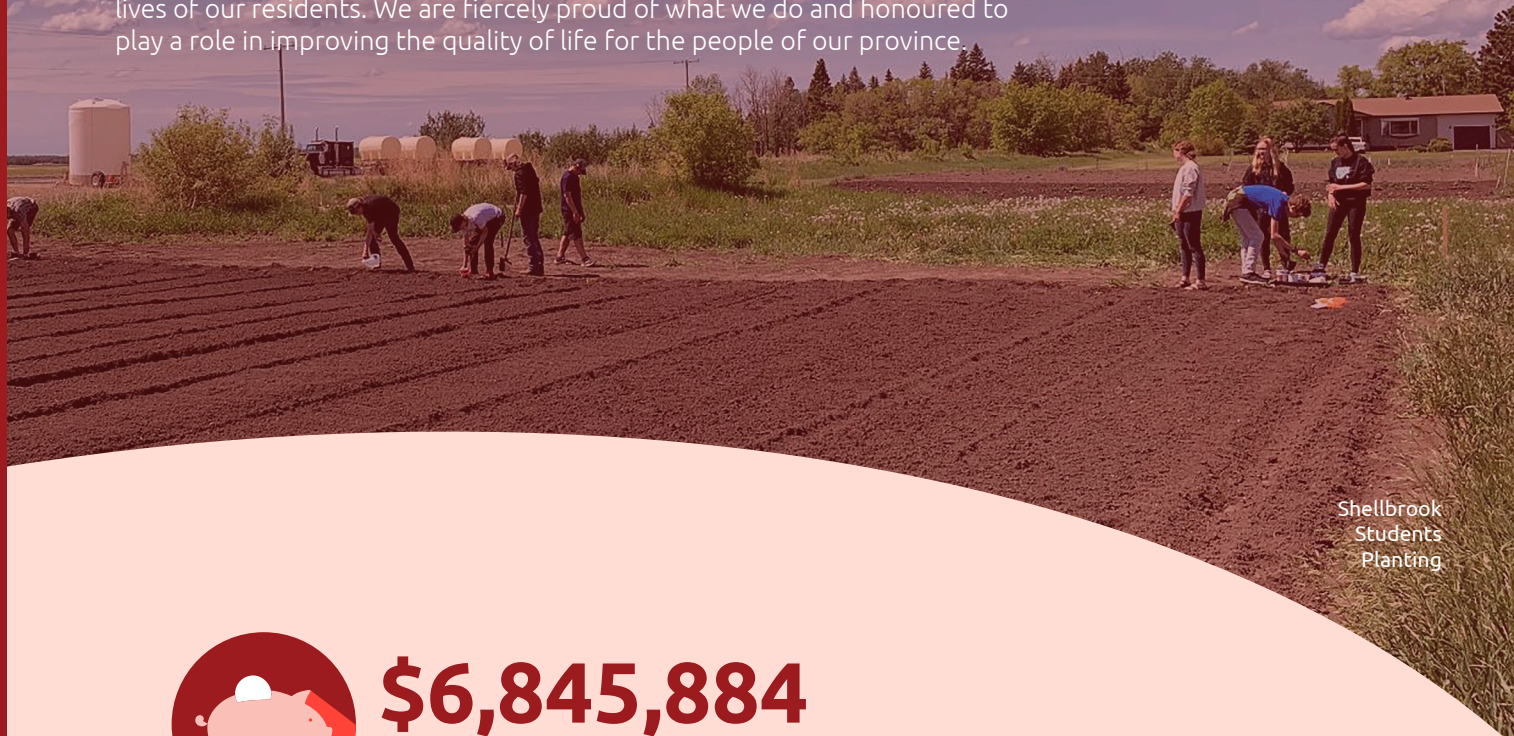
"This course has given me the knowledge on how to deal with children in a safe, fun way. It was great to experience and the skills I learned today will definitely come in handy."

- HIGH FIVE® Principles of Healthy Child Development Leader

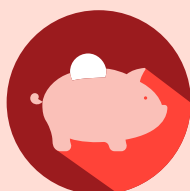


Funding Highlights

Each year we are responsible for distributing funds on behalf of the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund and the Government of Saskatchewan. We know that each dollar distributed makes a big difference in our province and in the lives of our residents. We are fiercely proud of what we do and honoured to play a role in improving the quality of life for the people of our province.



Shellbrook
Students
Planting



\$6,845,884
Total distributed

\$1,485,000

to 594 ice surfaces through the
Community Rink Affordability Grant

\$120,494

on Member Initiative Grants

\$1,467,182

to Community Grant Program, Dream
Brokers and Northern Community
School & Recreation Coordinators

\$2,610,598

to 32 Provincial Recreation Associations

\$44,000

on 90 member grants from the June is
Recreation & Parks Month Connection
Grant

\$1,118,610

to Sport, Culture and Recreation Districts
to support the local advancement of the
Framework for Recreation in Canada

Funding Story: City of Moose Jaw's Newcomer Water Safety Program

— Rates of drowning in Canada are still exceptionally high among new Canadians for a variety of reasons, including a lack of water safety education and a lack of exposure to swimming as a recreational activity. For the past few years, the City of Moose Jaw has added welcoming safety signage to the Kinsmen Sportsplex Pool's lobby, change room and pool deck. This has made it easier for staff to communicate important safety messages to city newcomers, as well as provide a more inclusive and welcoming experience for patrons.

The City wanted to continue this effort by expanding their services to include a Water Safety Program for new community members with facility tours, in-water skills and education sessions in local community spots. In order to reach families at every level, they wanted to have education sessions in a variety of locations, including playgrounds and the local Newcomer Centre and Multicultural Society. The program would promote confidence for newcomers to register for and attend local swimming pools and assist in keeping them safe in locations

around our city where children and families spend leisure time close to open water, such as Spring Creek and Wakamow Valley.

With the assistance of the SPRA Community Cultural Diversity Inclusion Grant, the City was able to provide pool orientation tours, laminated communication cards for lifeguards on the pool deck and pictogram safety signage throughout the aquatic facility. Additionally, the City added two new sets of swimming lessons for newcomer families, and additional education sessions on water safety for a variety of age groups.

Both sets of swimming lessons were filled to capacity. An additional one-day water safety/education session was provided with three different age groups (11 to 13-year-olds, teens, and adults). A total of 54 participants took part in the sessions and lessons offered.

City staff received positive verbal feedback from the families that participated, as well from their partners with the Moose Jaw Multicultural Council and Newcomer Centre.



A total of 54 participants

Swimming Lessons:

24 participants

*Water Safety
Swimming Sessions:*

12 participants

*Water Safety and
Education Sessions:*

18 participants

Testimonials:

"The food grown in our garden was donated to the local food bank, and assisted in feeding many hungry families in the surrounding area. Gardening and the nutrition program allowed children to be proud of what they grew and learnt. The excitement through children should allow families to embrace the nature in gardening and encourage families to help in community gardens or start

their own small gardens." - Town of Shellbrook – 2021 Parks for All Action Grant Recipient

"All year we have heard how wonderful, confident leaders our lifeguards have been at our pool. This year we have rave reviews from patrons at the pool that our lifeguards went above and beyond to encourage, educate and develop the skills of those who enjoy our facilities." - Town of Kelvington – 2021 Leadership Development Grant Recipient

"This grant allowed the Blaine Lake Skating Rink to host skating lessons for the first time in years! As a parent and a volunteer, it was so wonderful to see kids filling the rink again, taking lessons, getting exercise, and socializing with their friends!" - Town of Blaine Lake – Community Rink Affordability Grant Recipient

Public Relations Highlights

SPRA and all of our industry partners work hard year-round to provide programming and services that positively impact the lives of Saskatchewan residents. Throughout the year we like to pause, reflect, and take time to recognize the fruits of our collective labour. Whether through newsletters, blog posts, social media updates, webinars or news releases, we love to celebrate our successes and recognize those who work tirelessly throughout the year to make Saskatchewan a healthier, more vibrant place to live.



294,955

people reached
through Facebook

6,544

Facebook followers



4,021

total newsletter
subscribers



**5 SPRA Recognition
Awards**

awards posts viewed by
41,000 people on social media



7,944

Career Opportunities
page views

6,722

SPRA Grants
page views



**460
Attendees**

over 8 webinars



Communities in Bloom:

40

communities
participated
in the 2021
program

17

communities in the
Evaluated Friends,
Novice and Tourist's
Takeaway categories

**June is Recreation & Parks Month
(JRPM) Park Pass Lending Program:**

800 *to* **143** *accessing nearly* **100**

passes
distributed

library
branches

regional
parks

Public Relations Story:

JRPM Park Pass Lending Program - A Natural Partnership

The JRPM Regional Park Pass Lending Program is a pilot project developed in partnership with the Saskatchewan Recreation and Parks Association (SPRA), Saskatchewan Regional Parks Association (SRPA) and Saskatchewan Libraries Association (SLA). Throughout the summer of 2022, 800 Regional Park passes were made available on loan to Saskatchewan library card holders through participating libraries on a first-come, first-served basis.

Initially, participating library locations included Palliser Regional Library, Nuwe?áh Library System, Southeast Regional Library and Wheatland Regional Library. More participating libraries were added to the program as demand for the passes increased, resulting in a total of 143 library branches participating, including nine locations in Regina and nine in Saskatoon.

Park passes were provided in the form of custom hang-tags branded on one side with the Saskatchewan Regional Parks pass and the other with Sask Lotteries, SPRA, SRPA and SLA branding. A copy of the Saskatchewan Regional Parks Guide featuring park descriptions, photos, directions, amenities and maps of all locations was also included with the pass.

The program aimed to enhance knowledge of, and visitation to, Saskatchewan's nearly 100 Regional Parks and participating library branches, while also providing equitable access to parks and open spaces. The passes reduced barriers to accessing parks and open spaces and encouraged the people of Saskatchewan to get out in nature and enjoy all the benefits of being outside.

Testimonials:

"As a low income, single Mom, this was a big help. Taking my little one camping was amazing and one of the only summer holidays I could afford. Saving \$50 by borrowing a pass helped ease the cost." - JRPM Regional Park Pass Borrower

"What a great first experience! The judges were wonderful, welcoming, full of ideas, and a joy to spend the day with. I might invite judges to stay overnight the next time if we do a full assessment." - Town of Hepburn - Communities in Bloom Participant



Diverse and Inclusive Training

SPRA delivers accessible and relevant education focused on industry needs. Through these training opportunities, our staff, members and stakeholders are better positioned to meaningfully connect and engage with Saskatchewan's diverse communities. This professional development demonstrates alignment to our Strategic Plan, the Framework for Recreation in Canada and our commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 94 Calls to Action.

Multicultural Connections

Throughout 2021-2022, SPRA hosted five educational webinars facilitated by the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS) as part of a series called Multicultural Connections.

This series was developed to:

- Encourage inclusive and culturally appropriate recreational programs, services and opportunities.
- Provide SPRA members access to low or no cost education opportunities to learn about multiculturalism and anti-racism.

Topics explored through the series were abbreviated versions of MCoS's existing Intercultural Training Modules. This series was met with lots of positive feedback and increasing interest – from both SPRA staff and membership, but also from external stakeholders and individuals that had not previously engaged with SPRA.

The increased attendance, positive feedback and attendee survey results requesting further education have since motivated our decision to pursue an additional three virtual education opportunities with MCoS through 2022-2023.

Multicultural Connections Highlights

15 attendees

Diversity in the Workplace

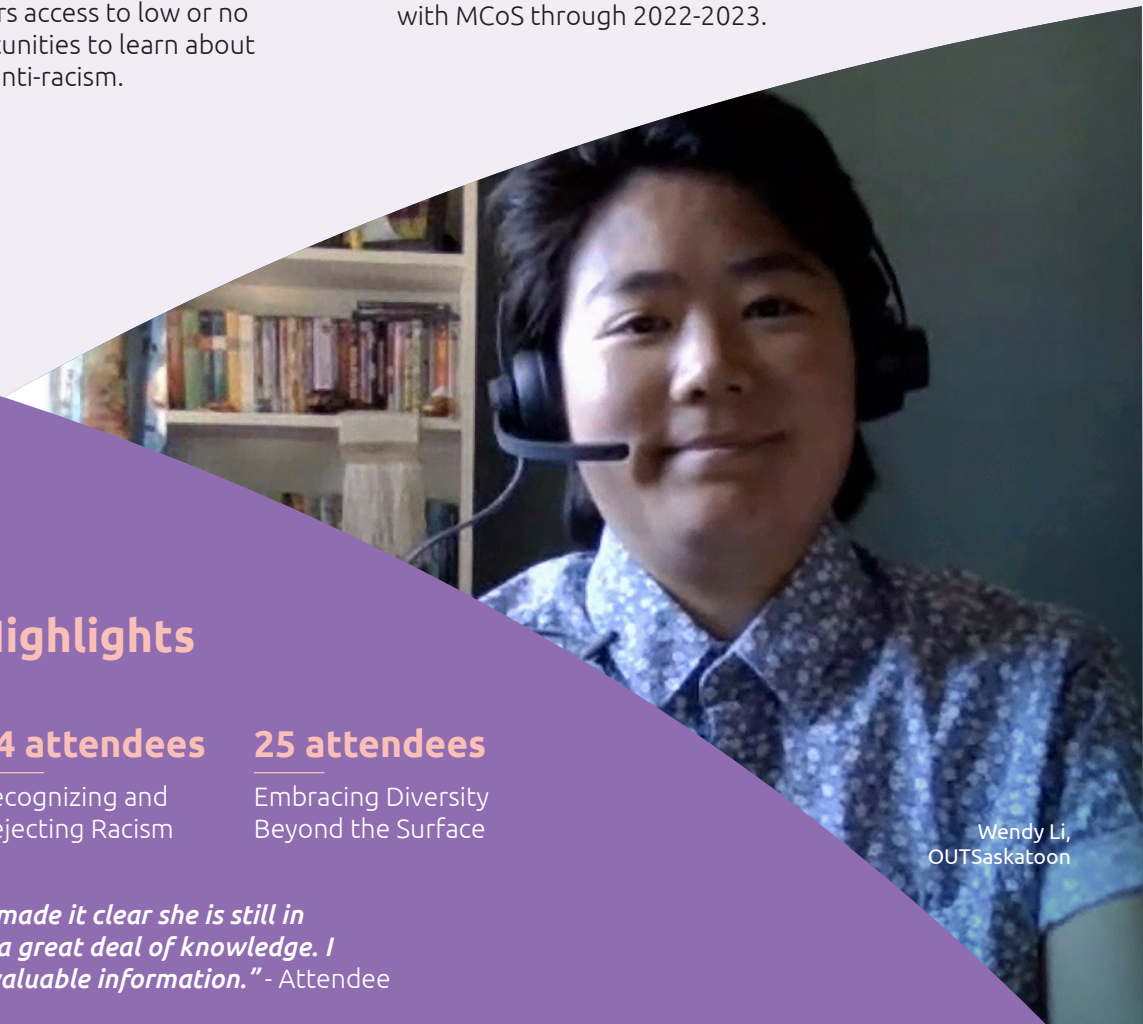
54 attendees

Recognizing and Rejecting Racism

25 attendees

Embracing Diversity Beyond the Surface

"I like that the presenter made it clear she is still in learning mode even with a great deal of knowledge. I found that she had such valuable information." - Attendee



Wendy Li,
OUTSaskatoon



Indigenous Fitness Class



Dr. Kevin wâsakâyâsiw Lewis

Pathways to Reconciliation

In 2021-2022, SPRA launched the Pathways series of educational webinars and training opportunities. These online, Indigenous-focused education sessions featured speakers and facilitators of Indigenous ancestry, or with specializations in Indigenous conservation, history, culture, physical activity, and parks and recreation in Saskatchewan.

This series was developed to:

- Recognize and support National Indigenous People's Day on June 21 and June's National Indigenous History Month.
- Provide our members access to low or no-cost education opportunities to learn about Indigenous history, culture and inclusion.
- Encourage inclusive and culturally appropriate recreational programs, services and opportunities for Indigenous peoples in Saskatchewan.
- Encourage or maintain supportive and mutually beneficial relationships with Indigenous members, parks and recreation practitioners, organizations, communities and people living in Saskatchewan.

87% of participants

were either satisfied or very satisfied with webinar content

61 attendees

Pathways to Reconciliation: Land Based Education, Learning, and Sharing with Dr. Kevin wâsakâyâsiw Lewis

45 attendees

Indigenous Awareness Level 1: Myths and Misconceptions with John Lagimodiere

"Really enjoyed these teachings, Wela'lin Dr. Lewis" - Attendee

"The way that John shared the information made the information impactful. His lived experience and storytelling techniques were engaging. I appreciate SPRA for making this learning opportunity available." - Attendee

Queer 101

In recognition of Pride Month in Saskatchewan, SPRA hosted "Queer 101: Introduction to Language, Identities and Allyship," facilitated by Wendy Li, Education and Outreach Manager for OUTSaskatoon.

In this workshop, participants were introduced to the foundations of identity, terminology, and inclusive language. Participants were also led through a group discussion and Q & A centered around the importance of 2SLGBTQ affirming forms, spaces and services.

122 attendees

"We took this class with our library and it was amazing. Wendy did such a great job; she may not have known it, but I cried a few times." - via Facebook

"Thank you so much for normalizing basic human dignity and compassion for all people." - via Facebook

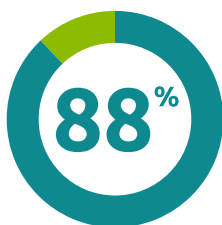
"I have participated in this workshop, it is fantastic. It helped me to put more inclusive work policies and hiring practices into place, totally worth your time!!" - via Facebook

Researching Recreation

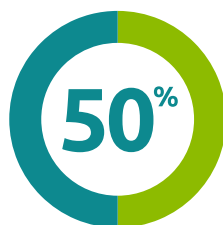
_____ The recreation industry provides the foundation of programs, places and professionals that are vital to our province, communities and people. Through research, we look to gather and share evidence that proves just that! It complements our public relations work, helps inform our training and consulting, and demonstrates the impact of recreation on our quality of life.

In January, we asked the Saskatchewan public if they felt parks and recreation created opportunities for inclusion and belonging. Using Insightrix Research Inc.'s online public poll service, **802 adults aged 18+ were surveyed** and were asked to rate their level of agreement with the following statements:

"Recreation and parks create opportunities and spaces for inclusive gathering."



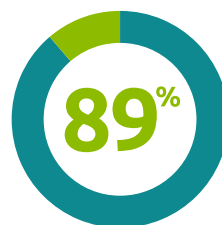
of all respondents
agreed



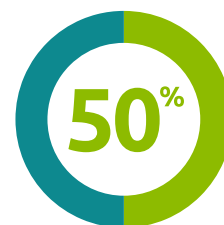
of all respondents
strongly agreed

People with children have an even stronger sense that recreation and parks are important places for inclusive gatherings.

"Recreation opportunities and spaces create a sense of belonging and connection in our communities."



of all respondents
agreed



of all respondents
strongly agreed

Saskatchewan people see their recreation opportunities and spaces as important aspects of their sense of belonging and connection to their communities.





Village of Siltion
Elder Walk



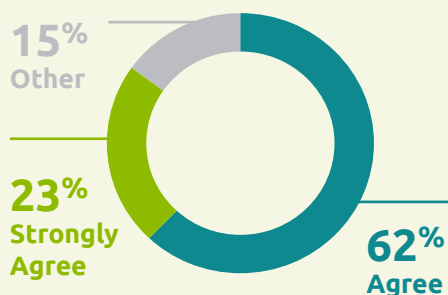
Camp Easter Seal - Photo
Courtesy of Sask Abilities

Recreation Develops Leadership Skills

In October 2021, we polled 804 Saskatchewan residents over the age of 18. We asked several questions related to recreation in Saskatchewan. Insightrix Research Inc. compiled and reported on responses.

Of the responses collected, one of particular note involved the role recreation plays in developing leadership skills.

Do you think the recreation and parks industry develops leadership skills in our youth, preparing them for future employment and citizenship?



Testimonials:

"An event held in a park is attended by community members of all ages, race and social standing. A great place to mingle and get to talk with someone you don't know. Often you learn that people share the same concerns and values." - Survey Respondent

"Recreation Centers and Parks would be an important outlet for the elderly to meet and socialize as long as they were designed for use by the older folks in the communities." - Survey Respondent

"As a young person, I benefited immensely from the recreation and parks industry. I played sports, took art classes, and found lifelong sisterhood through the Girl Guides of Canada. All of these activities prepared me for my current role as an advocate and educator in this community. They gave me the skills necessary to succeed at work, and to make meaningful contributions to my community." - Survey Respondent

Financial Statements

Summarized Statement of Financial Position *Year ended June 30, 2022*

ASSETS	2022	2021
Cash	96,415	100,459
Unrestricted fund investments	2,696,739	2,371,937
Accounts receivable	41,663	26,612
GST receivable	5,237	2,065
Prepaid expenses	31,065	43,396
Capital assets	30,979	34,099
Restricted fund investments	642,067	642,067
Total	3,544,165	3,220,635

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2022	2021
Liabilities		
Accounts and adjudication payable	334,202	373,645
Post retirement benefit payable	55,530	59,387
Grants payable to funders	213,293	127,134
Deferred contributions and unearned membership revenues	42,442	37,113
	645,467	597,279
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	2,256,631	1,981,289
Restricted	642,067	642,067
	2,898,698	2,623,356
Total	3,544,165	3,220,635

Summarized Statement of Operations

Year ended June 30, 2022

REVENUE	2022	2021
<i>Grants</i>		
Sask Lotteries Trust Fund	3,689,873	3,677,039
Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport	1,560,497	1,571,000
Other	29,696	-
	5,280,066	5,248,039
Self-generated	275,737	239,650
Total	5,555,803	5,487,689

EXPENSES	2022	2021
Board Operations	64,794	28,427
Corporate Services	1,231,803	1,261,873
Program Services	1,160,693	994,880
Communication, Information and Research	519,865	452,249
Field Services	2,303,306	2,524,286
Total	5,280,461	5,261,715

<i>Excess of revenue over expenses</i>	275,342	225,974
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Financial information is derived from the annual audited financial statements of the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc.

Detailed audited financial statements are available to members upon request.

FUNDED BY



SASK LOTTERIES