

Recommendations - Progress as of October 2010

Board Recommendation	Date	Government Response
Aboriginal Development		
Establish an appropriate action plan to engage the Aboriginal people in the economy; and make a bold statement not to allow jurisdictional issues to get in the way of ensuring full participation of Aboriginal people in our economy.	25-Jun-09	ES commissioned an independent study to examine options to increase Aboriginal peoples' participation in the economy. ES is working with the Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations (FNMR) and Aboriginal people on an action plan for increasing First Nations and Métis peoples' participation in the economy.
Cost share the Aboriginal Economic Development Initiative at 50 per cent with First Nations and Métis groups or other funding partners.	26-Nov-09	The 2010/11 Budget announced \$3 million for a new Crown Investments Corporation (CIC) fund for First Nations' economic development initiatives. CIC is considering the ES Board recommendation as they develop the new program.
Access To Capital		
Remove the annual sales cap for provincial funds from the Invest in Saskatchewan program (Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital Corporation (LSVCC) funds).	18-Nov-08	The Saskatchewan government doubled the annual cap on provincially registered funds from \$25 million to \$50 million per fund to boost economic growth through encouraging additional venture capital for business growth and development. Golden Opportunities and SaskWorks raised \$25M and \$38M respectively during the 2009 tax season. In early 2010, Enterprise Saskatchewan undertook a review of the LSVCC program which indicated that \$200M has been invested in Saskatchewan as a result of the LSVCC program, directly creating and maintaining 5,544 jobs.
Pursue the development of other independently managed venture capital growth opportunities wherever possible.	28-May-09	Work has been undertaken by Innovation Saskatchewan, supported by ES, to outline the Canadian venture capital landscape and the Saskatchewan venture capital and technology commercialization landscape, and to provide strategies to launch initiatives to attract venture capital. This work is now complete.

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Diversification and Value-Added		
<p>Create private sector-led Sector Teams to provide advice on removing barriers to growth and building on key strengths to capture opportunities in key economic sectors.</p>	<p>24-Apr-08</p>	<p>Eighteen sector teams with nine business leaders on each team have been established. Sector teams have been meeting to identify opportunities to increase growth in their respective sectors, and have made recommendations to the ES Board.</p>
<p>Conduct a full evaluation of the economic potential for value-added expansion of the nuclear industry and environmental considerations for Saskatchewan.</p>	<p>19-Jun-08</p>	<p>A 12 person Uranium Development Partnership (UDP), led by Dr. Richard Florizone, released their report with recommendations on value added opportunities in the uranium industry on March 31, 2009. Public consultations were led by Dan Perrins and a consultation report was issued September 15, 2009. A total of 18 of the UDP's 20 recommendations have been accepted by Government.</p>
<p>Beginning in 2010, the Government of Saskatchewan should: i) implement a renewable diesel standard mandate starting at B2 (two per cent biodiesel volume inclusion rate) and moving towards B5 as Saskatchewan production develops; and ii) provide a blender's tax credit of 15 cents per litre for blendstock fuel produced and sold in Saskatchewan.</p>	<p>28-May-09</p>	<p>ES has contracted a study on the provincial approach to promoting biofuels and expanded linkages to the federal mandate. ES is currently developing a Provincial Biofuels Strategy for consideration as part of the provincial budget process for 2011-12.</p>

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<p>Ensure Government, Crowns and Agencies have fully open consultation, tendering, and procurement processes with industry that a) Incorporate better communication regarding procurement opportunities, and b) Utilize a strategic procurement policy that supports partnerships; promotes best value; creates long-term benefits for industry and the province; and measures and reports progress in applying this procurement policy. The Board additionally recommends that ES undertake a review of 'best practices' of procurement policies and practices supporting economic growth and innovation in other jurisdictions and work with Government Services, Ministries, Crowns and Agencies to encourage adoption of those practices and report back to the Board of Directors by December 31, 2009 on progress. (Superseded by next recommendation)</p>	<p>28-May-09</p>	<p>An inter-ministry and Crown committee was formed to respond to the ES Board, the Environmental Technologies Team, and the Commercialization Team, all of which have made procurement-related recommendations. There was a presentation at the January 2010 ES Board meeting and a new recommendation was approved.</p>
<p>Work with private sector companies, ministries, Crowns and agencies to identify areas where the private sector can be engaged in P3s or where private sector delivery of services can be of benefit to the government while supporting economic growth and innovation in the province; and complete a report to the Board of Directors giving recommendations on specific P3s or direct delivery opportunities to be provided to Cabinet for implementation, and that the report be completed by the end of the current fiscal year.</p>	<p>28-May-09</p>	<p>ES has worked with a consortium of five organizations (three government and two private sector) on a project to build a large scale data centre for primary and disaster recovery in or near Regina. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent out by the consortium. The RFP and evaluation is complete. Should the project go ahead, the consortium members would be anchor tenants for the data centre, with another five potential members identified with similar needs.</p>
<p>Provide funding to a lead co-ordinating agency to support commercialization in the Life Sciences value-added industry in Saskatchewan.</p>	<p>28-May-09</p>	<p>This recommendation is being considered as part of the roll-out of Innovation Saskatchewan.</p>

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Review current minerals sector promotional activities and bring back a recommendation to the ES Board in three months on an overall strategy, including a discussion on whether the sector would benefit from enhanced collaboration among the stakeholders and whether an augmented budget is warranted.	25-Jun-09	The Board has been given a presentation from ES staff that illustrates that the ES marketing effort is targeted at investment attraction. Implementing the sector team recommendation will require new resources, or a redirection of existing ES expenditures on marketing materials. Board and the Cabinet Committee for Economic Development (CCED) concur that the ES marketing approach is appropriate to its mandate; therefore, the recommendation will not be implemented.
Develop and fund the SaskMade marketing program with the objective that the program would increase the sale and consumption of Saskatchewan food products; and that the work be done within the budgets of the Ministry of Agriculture and existing stakeholders.	28-Sep-09	The Ministry of Agriculture declined the request for funding for the SaskMade marketing initiative. The Agri-Value Sector has been advised of the decision.
Request the Ministry of Agriculture to prepare a more detailed analysis of incentives for surface leaseholders on Crown land to present to the Board within three months.	29-Oct-09	Agriculture prepared a detailed analysis and met with Sector Team members to discuss the issue. A survey will be circulated to obtain wider industry perspective of the issue. Work has been completed on this recommendation and the sector team is satisfied with the analysis. This recommendation is complete.
Working with Saskatchewan Intergovernmental Affairs, Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP), various business organizations and the Enterprise Regions, develop a program whereby Saskatchewan businesses are made aware of opportunities in markets opened up by the NWP; and prepare an annual report for the ES Board on progress made by government agencies in ensuring that smaller firms have an opportunity to understand the procurement needs of government.	28-Jan-10	Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP) has completed a guide to doing business with other provinces. Government and STEP are working to ensure that all businesses and not just STEP members are aware of opportunities.

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<p>That the Government of Saskatchewan reinforces its existing commitment to marketing choice for barley, durum and wheat farmers by instructing the Ministry of Agriculture to develop a plan to further this objective, including urging the federal government to make regulatory and legislative changes to provide for dual marketing choice. Further, that the Ministry of Agriculture work together with the Marketing Choice Subcommittee of the ES Agriculture Sector Team to develop the plan by July 31, 2010.</p>	29-Apr-10	<p>The Ministry of Agriculture is considering a response to this recommendation.</p>
<p>That the Enterprise Saskatchewan Board asks the Saskatchewan Government to reinforce its commitment to primary agriculture research and innovation by developing a plan for increasing research funding that is targeted to meet farmer needs. The plan should be in place as the economy begins to recover and target an overall increase in funding, from \$15.2 million to \$20 million, that is reflective of agriculture's contribution to the economy.</p>	29-Apr-10	<p>The Government of Saskatchewan announced an additional \$5 million per year increase in agriculture research funding.</p>
<p>Form a task team to develop a comprehensive strategy/plan for Crown land around Lake Diefenbaker</p>	24-Jun-10	<p>The Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport (TPCS), with input from several ministries, is leading development of a comprehensive government strategy for maximizing Lake Diefenbaker's economic and recreation potential. The Ministry has developed a concept plan that outlines a phased approach to actioning potential initiatives in the short, medium and long term.</p>
<p>Consider, as part of the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure business review process, the creation of an Air Transportation Unit to align air transportation policy and programs with the needs of aviation stakeholders.</p>	24-Jun-10	<p>This recommendation will be considered as part of the 2011-12 budget.</p>

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Develop a northern transportation strategy inclusive of aviation, to attract investment and economic development	24-Jun-10	In June 2009, the Ministry established a Northern Transportation Advisory Committee with industry and community leaders mandated to develop a comprehensive Northern Transportation Strategy.
In consultation with related agencies, present a business rationale and model that would co-ordinate and assist commercialization and investment opportunities in the tourism sector.	24-Jun-10	Discussions have been initiated with Tourism Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport.
Implement a national marketing campaign.	3-Sep-10	ES has developed a plan for a three-year national marketing campaign to promote Saskatchewan as a good place to do business and to establish a career. ES is working on the first phase of the campaign, which includes television commercials, on-line advertising and video vignettes which are posted on the campaign website. Visit www.thinksask.ca
Review what is required to support the commercialization objectives of the Creative Industries.	30-Sep-10	ES has formed a working group and will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for work to be done.
Provide a process for government agencies and Crowns to consult with industry representatives prior to the formal Request for Proposal process as part of the Saskatchewan Crown's, Ministry's or Agency's strategic business planning.	30-Sep-10	ES will organize a forum for Crowns and ministries to discuss opportunities for technology procurement that the New West Partnership brings for Saskatchewan suppliers.
Entrepreneurship Development		
Establish an Entrepreneurship Council	23-Sep-08	A nine-person Entrepreneurship Council has been established and has been actively meeting.
Prepare a comprehensive entrepreneurship strategy	23-Sep-08	A draft entrepreneurship strategy document has been prepared and a communication plan is being developed. The strategy is focused on financing, mentorship, entrepreneurship education, access to information, and competitiveness. Work is underway on several initiatives under these categories.

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Increase the SBLA loan limit from \$15,000 to \$20,000 with no change in lending criteria, and eliminate the SBLA cap of \$250,000.	28-Sep-09	Although Government recognizes the positive impact of the Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) program, loan limits were not increased in the 2010-11 Budget due to financial constraints. The SBLA program will be considered again as part of the 2011-12 Budget process.
Support the development of a Virtual Mentorship Tool.	28-Sep-09	A business case for a virtual mentorship service has been prepared. Additional consultation is underway to determine the fit of the proposed service within the broader spectrum of mentorship services.
Return in six months to the ES Board with options for implementing an aggressive entrepreneurial education component in the core curriculum.	28-Sep-09	The Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE) has presented to the Entrepreneurship Council, the Youth Economic Engagement Council, the Minister of Enterprise, and officials from the Ministry of Education to gain support for implementing a set of lesson modules that teach entrepreneurship and financial and economic literacy. ES is working on next steps, including identifying funding for this initiative.
Infrastructure/Utilities		
Implement the Enterprise Region concept subject to further consultations with Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM).	22-May-08	In June 2008, consultations were held with the SUMA Board and the SARM Board and with SARM's six districts. All 13 Enterprise Regions have been established.
Establish Enterprise Regions in northern Saskatchewan.	19-Jun-08	The formation of the new northern Enterprise Regions was announced in the 2009-10 budget providing \$1.4 million in funding. It is being led by the Ministry of First Nations and Metis Relations (FNMR).

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<p>In light of the changing Saskatchewan economy and the important role that schools and provincial rural infrastructure play in our economy;</p> <p>1) any decisions on closures of rural schools or provincial infrastructure facilities be suspended for a three-year period, at which time an appropriate analysis on the impact of closures of these facilities can be undertaken; and</p> <p>2) government undertake an immediate review of the critical role which both our primary education system and rural provincial infrastructure in rural Saskatchewan play in our province's economic development.</p>	23-Sep-08	<p>Amendments made to The Education Act, 1995 and The Education Regulations, 1986 include the new Schools of Opportunity designation which provides rural school divisions with financial support to allow communities to demonstrate increased school enrolments over a maximum of three years (increased from two years as per the ES Board's recommendation); setting minimum provincial school review criteria on enrolment benchmarks and distance to the nearest schools; establishment of a school review committee with community representation; extending the timelines and clarifying the school review process; and outlining a funding formula for Schools of Opportunity.</p>
<p>Require five-year capital plans for all public sector organizations, including health districts, school boards, universities, regional colleges and the Ministry of Government Services.</p>	18-Nov-08	<p>The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure released their first five-year capital plan on December 3, 2008 with assistance from ES on priorities for economic development. ES will be working with Executive Council and other Ministries to incorporate economic impact assessments as part of long-term capital plans. Capital plans will be posted to the ES website.</p>
<p>Further analyze endowment funds as an option to sustain our provincial strategic research infrastructure.</p>	20-Mar-09	<p>Responsibility for provincial strategic research infrastructure has been transferred to Innovation Saskatchewan</p>
<p>Include consideration of the impact of utility rate increases on the economy and industry competitiveness in future Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel mandates, and in the absence of this mandate, that Cabinet consider the impact of rate increases on the economy and industry.</p>	23-Apr-09	<p>Government added the following to the Saskatchewan Rate Review Panel's Terms of Reference for the SaskPower Rate Change Proposal: "consider the effect of the proposed rate change on the competitiveness of the Crown Corporation relative to other jurisdictions." Industry concerns were brought to the attention of the Panel and Government accepted the Panel's recommendations to reduce proposed increases.</p>

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Include Highway 903 as strategic highway infrastructure for the province's northwest, and accelerate the upgrade for completion by October 2011, subject to further cost analysis.	23-Apr-09	The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure continues to consult with affected stakeholders responding Highway 903 vs 155 as the preferred route.
Optimize the current five-year transportation plan by more fully integrating the various modes of transportation to capture future economic growth opportunity. This should include introducing a requirement for accountability methods for measurable annual milestones and corrective actions.	25-Jun-09	The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure develops and publishes a Rolling Five-Year Capital Plan and an Annual Strategy and Action Plan that incorporates all modes of transportation with key actions and performance measures. In June 2009, the Ministry established a Northern Transportation Advisory Committee with industry and community leaders mandated to develop a comprehensive Northern Transportation Strategy.
Initiate an efficiency and effectiveness review of all Crown Corporations.	28-Sep-09	Crown Investments Corporation (CIC) presented to the ES Board, indicating that most major Crowns currently have ongoing productivity reviews. SaskPower has indicated in its 2010 rate application that it will be undertaking an efficiency and effectiveness review in 2010 with external resources.
Accelerate a helicopter rescue program in partnership with the private sector that builds on existing infrastructures within communities and enhances the existing emergency response sector in rural and remote areas.	29-Oct-09	As announced in the 2010 Throne Speech, the government is planning for a significant expansion of emergency helicopter medical services.

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Labour Market Development		
Pursue investment, labour and tourism attraction missions to Ontario, Alberta, Manitoba, and British Columbia, and consider adding Atlantic provinces.	22-May-08	ES, the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration (AEEI), and Tourism Saskatchewan led a mission to Toronto in September 2008, attracting over 80 families to the province. A second mission to Toronto was held March 2009. The Saskatchewan Pavilion at the Vancouver Olympics was recognized as successfully marketing the province. Saskatchewan has led a number of missions to the United States, China and Japan.
Establish a Youth Economic Engagement Strategic Issues Council.	29-Jan-09	Nine council members represent urban, rural, northern, First Nations, and Métis youth. The Council has identified four strategic priorities: youth entrepreneurship, workforce development, education, and youth leadership development. Leadership training for youth from all Enterprise Regions has taken place. Additional youth leadership training is planned for 2010.
Establish a Labour Market Council subject to further development and consultation on its clear mandate and focus.	23-Apr-09	Consultations were held with labour market stakeholders on the mandate of the Council. A forum for stakeholder consultations on labour market issues is expected to be established prior to fiscal year-end.
In collaboration with industry and ministries, lead the development of a plan to address minerals sector labour shortages. This plan should lay out the actions and resources needed to fill the labour shortage gap and could include initiatives such as training, immigration programming, Aboriginal peoples' skill development, mobile training units, etc. ES should return to the Board with a recommended course of action within three months.	25-Jun-09	The Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Immigration (AEEI) is leading the development of a provincial labour market strategy. AEEI has developed a strategy for the Minerals Sector in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Minerals Association Human Resource Council. The Minerals Sector Team feels that their labour issues are being addressed.

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<p>Provide support for advertising and promotional activities to raise awareness of successful young entrepreneurs and generate greater enthusiasm for entrepreneurship among Saskatchewan youth.</p>	26-Nov-09	<p>Saskatchewan Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (SYPE) is the lead partner in a three-year marketing campaign linked with the Silver Spade Awards. The campaign will primarily be conducted through a You Tube channel, where young entrepreneurs can post a short video profile of their venture. Top-ranked video submissions will receive support for professionally-produced online and social media materials to tell their story and promote their businesses and will be eligible for a new award at the annual SYPE gala.</p>
<p>Support the building of a provincial network of young professionals and entrepreneurs through a partnership with Saskatchewan Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (SYPE). It is further recommended that the ES Regional Office staff be utilized to establish young professional networks in their respective regions. Support would be provided in-kind, with potential financial support if budgets allow.</p>	26-Nov-09	<p>Regional Enterprise staff have been assigned to work on expanding SYPE in their respective areas. Contributions from ES are primarily in-kind, but may also be financial, if resources are available. SYPE chapters are now incorporated in Saskatoon, Regina, Estevan/Weyburn, Prince Albert, North Battleford, Moose Jaw, and most recently in Yorkton and Swift Current.</p>
<p>Maintain the minimum wage at its current level and do not implement a 90% training wage. Direct the Saskatchewan Minimum Wage Board to give further consideration to indexation options, with the ES Board to comment on the options when they are developed.</p>	25-Mar-10	<p>The Government of Saskatchewan announced on July 30, 2010 that it is holding the province's minimum wage steady at \$9.25. The Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety (LRWS) sent a letter to the Saskatchewan Minimum Wage Board requesting it review and recommend on an appropriate method for Saskatchewan to use to index the minimum wage. The Board is to report back by December 31, 2010.</p>

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Regulatory Streamlining		
Establish a strategic issues council to improve business services and reduce regulatory red tape.	31-Mar-08	The Regulatory Modernization Council (RMC) was established with seven business leaders. The RMC has developed a workplan with key action items that are being advanced. Priorities include improving regulatory service, increased regulatory accountability and transparency, and expanding online regulatory services.
Continue work to implement a proposed client-focused business gateway, with priorities to include more consistent forms across government, availability of online transactions and single-window business registration.	21-Oct-08	ITO completed research on best practices and consulted with stakeholders. ES is enhancing its website to be more user-friendly and is working with other ministries on advancing a one-stop business registration website. On March 16, 2010, Information Services Corporation (ISC) announced that it will be developing an online portal to provide more convenient and cost-effective delivery of services to business. By the end of 2012, ISC will provide business owners with a single point of access to most government services for business.

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Pursue further consultations and research regarding a results-based model for environment regulations.	21-Oct-08	Four bills regarding environmental management and protection, environmental assessment, the management of forest resources and the management and reduction of greenhouse gases have been passed in the legislature, forming the framework for the implementation of a results-based regulatory system. Before the bills can be proclaimed, the Ministry of Environment has committed to developing an Environmental Code in collaboration with First Nations and Métis people, affected stakeholders and interested parties. The Environmental Code will provide standards and practices to guide both prescriptive and alternative, results-based regulatory activities. For background information and to comment on the Environmental Code, please go to www.environment.gov.sk.ca/Regulations .
Implement the Ministry of Finance's draft Taxpayer Service Commitments and Standards Code. Direct other Ministries that deal with entrepreneurs and industry to develop similar commitments and standards in consultation with stakeholders.	17-Dec-08	The Ministry of Finance implemented The Taxpayer Service Commitments and Standards Code. The Labours Standard Branch released "Principles of Service". Discussions have begun with Workers Compensation Board and other Ministries around the adoption of service standards.
Begin a process to implement a Regulatory Registry - a one-stop on-line consultation tool for proposed new and amended regulations - under the direction of the Regulatory Modernization Council.	29-Jan-09	Government has determined that the processes currently in place for consultation are sufficient so will not be proceeding with the new on-line consultation tool.
Establish an Inter-ministry Regulatory Modernization Committee of Deputy Ministers or designates to co-ordinate implementation of expected regulatory and related service recommendations within government, and that it report on progress to the Regulatory Modernization Council.	29-Jan-09	An Inter-ministry Committee was established in February 2009, chaired by the Registrar of Regulations. Senior official and working groups are expected to be renewed in Fall, 2010.

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Create a centralized regulatory and inspection agency for mechanical and electrical contractors, with the intent of pursuing a model for all affected industries and regulators as a subsequent phase-in.	25-Jun-09	A consultant's study recommended combining gas, plumbing and electrical licensing, inspection and permitting in the Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan (TSASK) which was established on July 1, 2010.
Co-ordinate the efforts of the provincial government and lead the development of an online one-stop business registration and approvals system utilizing the federal business number, and steps to make immediate progress and improvements to advance one-stop registration services.	25-Jun-09	Information Services Corporation (ISC) will implement phase one of the Business Portal project, including Corporate Business Registration, Workers' Compensation and the Provincial Sales Tax in spring, 2011. The next phase, to be implemented in spring of 2012, will include a broader range of business services to be determined in collaboration with business and government. The Corporate Registry's COBRA system will be enhanced to support the online Business Portal and the New West Partnership (NWP) requirement for a streamlined corporate registration capability across Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia in July, 2012.
Work with municipalities to reduce impediments caused by transportation weight limit variations and various hauling permits and fees among municipalities; and complete a study on the issue by March 31, 2010.	25-Jun-09	ES held a meeting in July 2010 with representatives from the Energy, Minerals, Transportation and Logistics, Agriculture, and Home Building sector teams; the Ministries of Highways and Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs; Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA); and Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM). Government is assessing a technology solution.
Provide companies permits to move drilling rigs on Sundays.	29-Oct-09	The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is working on increased harmonization of transportation regulations with Alberta including regulations for movement of oversize vehicles. New regulations are now in place. Further reductions to trade barriers are expected as a result of the New West Partnership.

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Through the NWP, implement best practices for regulatory harmonization in the areas of transportation, labour and trade, in consultation with other stakeholders.	29-Oct-09	The New West Partnership was signed with Alberta and British Columbia on April 30, 2010. The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure have begun discussions with Alberta on harmonization of highways regulations and progress has been made. Labour certification talks are also underway.
Implement a regulatory accountability initiative that incorporates a Regulatory Competitiveness and Transparency Act to improve the quality and transparency of regulations, encourage regulatory innovation, reduce the barriers to competitiveness imposed by unnecessary red tape, and require annual public reporting by ministry with regards to their progress towards regulatory modernization. Develop a workplan to implement the initiative and report back to the Board.	24-Jun-10	ES has consulted broadly with ministries on a proposed regulatory accountability initiative. The 2010 Throne Speech referenced a new regulatory initiative, and an announcement is expected in Fall 2010.
Publish a list of approvals and fees required of businesses by each ministry and agency on an annual basis with a summary report of trends.	24-Jun-10	ES has developed a conceptual model and has implemented a pilot database. Discussions with other ministries about providing additional information are taking place.
Reinforce Saskatchewan's commitment to the successful negotiations of the Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.	30-Sep-10	A letter was sent to Executive Council (Intergovernmental Affairs) and the Ministry of Agriculture conveying the Board's recommendation.
Take a leadership role in developing and implementing a strategy to promote and advance the common themes of the submissions from the western provinces' farm sector and agriculture industry associations to the rail freight service review. This strategy should be developed in response to the October 2010 release of the interim report.	30-Sep-10	ES is working with the Ministries of Agriculture and Highways and Infrastructure to advance a common position for the agriculture sector.

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Tax Competitiveness		
Focus on property taxes and personal income taxes for both low and high income earners as tax competitiveness priorities. Establish a strategic issues council to research and advise on tax competitiveness measures to encourage economic development.	21-Oct-08	Public feedback was sought on priorities for the budget surplus. On October 21, 2008, the Premier announced the largest single-year income tax reduction in Saskatchewan history, saving taxpayers about \$300 million per year. All income tax filers over 18 experienced a tax reduction, retroactive for 2008. ES contracted with the Canada West Foundation (Jack Vicq) and the CD Howe Institute to assess personal and corporate income tax options. On March 18, 2009, the Minister of Finance announced the largest education property tax cut in a single year in the province's history.
Implement a competitive and affordable tax structure based on the following broad-based tax changes: Implement a plan to reduce the education component of property taxes;	17-Dec-08	On March 18, 2009 the Government of Saskatchewan announced it would cut and cap education property tax rates (mill rates) by setting province-wide tax rates for each of the three major property classes - residential, commercial and agricultural. The overall amount of tax paid by property owners to fund education was reduced by \$103 million, or 14 per cent, in 2009 compared to 2008. The education property tax will be further reduced as public finances permit.
Make no changes to the small business income tax rate or structure;	17-Dec-08	No changes have been made.
Make no major changes to the corporation capital tax structure;	17-Dec-08	No changes have been made.
Examine targeted corporate tax measures to determine effectiveness in meeting policy objectives.	17-Dec-08	ES commissioned an independent review of LSVCC tax credits which was completed on March 31, 2010. ES also worked with the Ministry of Finance to develop new targeted tax incentives to attract value-added mineral companies to the province.
Amend the R&D tax credit to make it refundable at a 15 per cent rate	29-Jan-09	The R&D Tax Credit was made refundable at 15 per cent.

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Eliminate fuel tax for all resource sectors using stationary equipment and off-road vehicles, subject to further information and expertise obtained from the Ministries of Finance and Energy and Resources, regarding the financial impacts and Western Canada jurisdictional and sectoral comparisons.	23-Apr-09	The financial implications of this recommendation are being assessed by the Ministries of Finance and Energy and Resources and will be considered during the budget process.
Based on changing economic circumstances and competitive new tax policies across Canada, the ES Board recommends accelerating their previous tax recommendations through implementing tax reforms in 2010 resulting in: i. 10 per cent Personal Income tax;	28-May-09	Due to fiscal constraints, this recommendation was not implemented in the 2010-11 Budget. Government will consider further personal income tax reductions during future budget deliberations.
ii. 10 per cent Corporate Income tax, and	28-May-09	Due to fiscal constraints, this recommendation was not implemented in the 2010-11 Budget. Government will consider further corporate income tax reductions during future budget deliberations.
iii. a harmonized sales tax within the context of a balanced budget.	28-May-09	The government has stated it is not pursuing sales tax harmonization.
As the Government of Saskatchewan reviews the second year of the property taxation structure changes, take into account any inequities of the changes and take steps to mitigate the impact on the competitiveness of the three tier system; and consult with the ES Board of Directors as it goes forward in this review.	25-Jun-09	The Minister of Education met with the ES Board to further discuss their concerns with the three-tier system. The three-tiered structure for education property tax for commercial property owners is expected to be phased out as finances permit.
Phase out the Corporate Capital Tax (CCT) Resource Surcharge in order that Saskatchewan remain competitive and to harmonize with other jurisdictions, and as an extension of the previous decision to eliminate the general CCT.	29-Oct-09	The recommendation was not approved in the 2010/11 Budget process due to fiscal restraints. The Ministry of Energy and Resources and ES are continuing to monitor the competitiveness of the energy sector's total taxes and royalties in light of changes in Alberta.

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<p>Initiate a high level task force, with SUMA, SARM and multiple stakeholders to identify issues and develop recommendations for taxation policies and fees that would ensure that Saskatchewan municipalities have fair, transparent and equitable mechanisms for industry and those affected by resource industry development.</p>	<p>29-Oct-09</p>	<p>ES and Municipal Affairs (MA) developed a cross-sector list of municipal issues to assist the Energy Sector Team in developing the terms of reference. ES, MA and the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association will develop a report that defines the specific property tax issues. ES will work with the Petroleum Services Association of Canada to define the specific issues regarding municipal permitting of the movement of goods. The information will be presented at the next Energy Sector Team meeting.</p>