

# PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN THE ARTS AND CULTURE IN SASKATCHEWAN IN 2009/10

*Prepared for the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance*



*by Hill Strategies Research*



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This report examines provincial government investment in the arts and culture in Saskatchewan, with comparisons to other provinces. The calculations are based on Statistics Canada's 2009/10 data on Government Expenditures on Culture, available at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87f0001x/87f0001x2012001-eng.htm>.

The dataset provides information about spending on different cultural areas (arts, cultural industries, libraries, heritage and other) as well as certain types of spending (operating expenses, capital expenses, operating grants and capital grants). According to Statistics' Canada's definitions, tax credits are not included: "Excluded are expenditures not requiring a cash outlay."

Statistics Canada surveyed all federal and provincial "cultural departments, ministries, agencies, commissions, boards, special funds and government business enterprises". A survey of "about 10% of all municipalities", including all major cities, was conducted in order to obtain data on municipal cultural spending.

After outlining key definitions used by Statistics Canada, the report includes sections on total provincial government investment in culture, spending on culture by other levels of government, investment in the arts and cultural industries, spending on specific cultural line items, grants to the arts and culture, and detailed tables.

To calculate per-capita spending figures, population figures for July 1, 2009 were used. At that time, the Saskatchewan population was 1,029,300. The population figures are available from Statistics Canada at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/demo02a-eng.htm>.

## Section 1: Definitions

The grouping of cultural areas in this report is:

- a) arts (arts education + performing arts + visual arts and crafts)
- b) cultural industries (literary arts/publishing + film and video + broadcasting + sound recording)
- c) heritage (museums + public archives + historic parks and sites + nature/provincial parks + other heritage)
- d) libraries
- e) other (multiculturalism + multidisciplinary + other)

Statistics Canada's definitions of government spending on culture, especially specific cultural areas, are very particular and should be kept in mind when reading the results.

Statistics Canada's definitions for each component of the "arts" grouping are:

- Arts education includes "expenditures associated with the teaching of the arts both at national schools (such as the National Ballet School in Toronto and the National Theatre School in Montreal) and at arts institutions (such as Holland College of Visual Arts, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Ontario College of Art, Kootenay School of Art, Emily Carr College of Art and Design, Mennonite Brethren Bible/Art College and conservatories of music and dramatic arts). Excluded are expenditures associated with the teaching of the arts at educational institutions (elementary and secondary schools, and college and university institutions)."
- The performing arts include "theatre, dance, music and opera. Included are expenditures related to creation, production and performance. Also included is the financial support given to performing arts organizations, associations and groups."
- "Activities traditionally labelled 'visual arts and crafts' include painting, sculpture, plastic arts, photography, fine and decorative arts, and craft works. Included are expenditures on activities related to the actual creation and production of works of art and crafts. Also included is the financial support given to organizations and institutions for activities related to visual arts and crafts, such as grants to art galleries which hold temporary exhibits or travelling shows of works of art." Operating grants to most art galleries are not included here but are included with museums.

**Provincial government spending on culture includes:**

- a) direct operating expenditures
- + b) direct capital expenditures
- + c) operating grants, contributions and transfers to other organizations (including funding of arts and culture organizations)
- + d) capital grants, contributions and transfers to other organizations

- a) Direct operating expenditures include wages, salaries, benefits, and purchases of goods and services.
- b) Direct capital expenditures include “expenditures on goods with a normal life of more than one year, expenses associated with the construction and acquisition of land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and expenses associated with extraordinary building repairs.”
- c) Operating grants, contributions and transfers include financial assistance that is not for capital development or acquisition. Project and other short-term grants would also be included here.
- d) Capital grants, contributions and transfers included grants and transfers made to finance the acquisition of capital assets.

For additional definitions used by Statistics Canada, please see  
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/87f0001x/2012001/part-partie5-eng.htm>.

## Section 2: Total provincial government investment in culture

Provincial investment in culture in Saskatchewan was \$153.2 million in 2009/10, including direct spending on the arts, cultural industries, libraries, heritage and other cultural activities.

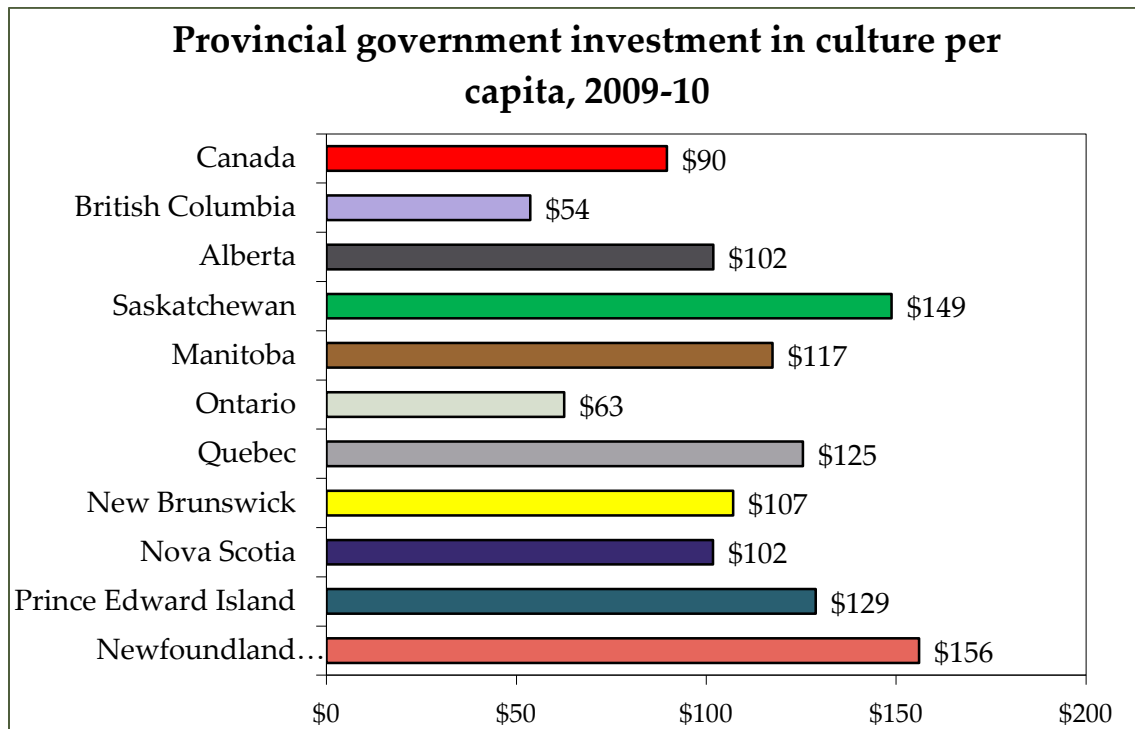
Before adjusting for inflation, overall Saskatchewan provincial spending on culture increased from \$94.3 million in 2003/04 to \$153.2 million in 2009/10, a 62% increase. While substantial, this percentage change ranks fourth among the provinces, behind Newfoundland and Labrador (109%), Alberta (88%) and Nova Scotia (68%). The average among all provinces is 42%.

More recently, the \$153.2 million spent in 2009/10 represents a 14% increase from the 2008/09 level.

After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan provincial spending on culture increased by 46% between 2003/04 (\$105.0 million<sup>1</sup>) and 2009/10 (\$153.2 million). In the rest of this report, the statistics regarding changes over time will be expressed after inflation.

### Per capita investment

As shown in the chart below, Saskatchewan's per capita spending level (\$149) ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> among the provinces in 2009/10, behind only Newfoundland and Labrador (\$156).



<sup>1</sup> The 2003/04 spending amount was adjusted upwards to be equal to its post-inflation value as of 2009/10.

After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan's per capita spending level increased from \$106 in 2003/04 to \$149 in 2009/10. Saskatchewan's ranking among the provinces increased from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> during this period.

### **Section 3: Spending by other levels of government on culture in Saskatchewan**

Compared with the \$153.2 million invested in culture by the provincial government, federal government spending on culture in Saskatchewan was \$64.2 million in 2009/10. On a per capita basis, federal investments equal \$62 per Saskatchewanian, ranking 9<sup>th</sup> among the provinces (ahead of only British Columbia, where federal spending on culture represents \$53 per person).

In Saskatchewan, municipal governments invested \$106.4 million in culture in 2009/10. A large majority of this spending (\$80.9 million) was on libraries. On a per capita basis, municipal spending equals \$103 per Saskatchewanian, ranking 1<sup>st</sup> among the provinces, just ahead of British Columbia (\$100) and Alberta (\$99).

When the federal (\$64.2 million), provincial (\$153.2 million) and municipal (\$106.4 million) investments in culture are combined, governments spent a total of \$323.7 million on culture in Saskatchewan in 2009/10, or \$315 per capita. This ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> among the provinces, behind Prince Edward Island (\$351) and Quebec (\$389). A recent report from Hill Strategies Research showed that Saskatchewan consumers spent \$905 per person on cultural goods and services in 2008. The consumer spending figure is nearly three times higher than the overall government spending figure in Saskatchewan.

After adjusting for inflation:

- Federal investment in culture in Saskatchewan increased from \$49.5 million in 2003/04 to \$64.2 million in 2009/10, a 30% increase.
- Municipal investment in culture in Saskatchewan increased from \$81.1 million in 2003/04 to \$106.4 million in 2009/10, a 31% increase.
- The combined total investment in culture in Saskatchewan increased from \$235.6 million in 2003/04 to \$323.7 million in 2009/10, a 37% increase.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> In all three cases, the 2003/04 spending amounts were adjusted upwards to be equal to their post-inflation values as of 2009/10.

## Section 4: Provincial government spending on the arts and cultural industries

This section examines direct provincial government investment in 2009/10 in two key cultural areas: the arts and cultural industries. The standard definition of the arts in this report includes arts education, performing arts, and visual arts and crafts. (Alternate definitions of “arts” funding are examined at the end of this section.) The cultural industries include film and video, literary arts/publishing, broadcasting, and sound recording.

### **Per capita arts spending in Saskatchewan is average when compared with the other provinces**

In Saskatchewan, government spending on the arts is less than one-half of government spending on the cultural industries. Saskatchewan provincial spending on the arts was \$13.1 million in 2009/10, compared with \$28.5 million in provincial spending on the cultural industries. Combined, provincial spending on the arts and cultural industries was \$41.6 million in 2009/10.

On a per capita basis, \$13 per person of Saskatchewan government spending goes towards the arts, while \$28 is allocated to the cultural industries.

The \$13 of provincial per capita arts spending in Saskatchewan ranks 5<sup>th</sup> among the 10 provinces. Provincial per capita arts spending in Saskatchewan is lower than in Newfoundland and Labrador (\$27 per capita), Quebec (\$25), Alberta (\$18) and Nova Scotia (\$15). Saskatchewan’s per capita investment in the arts is higher than the investment in neighbouring Manitoba (\$8) and very close to the average of all 10 provinces (\$12).

### **Cultural industries spending per capita is very high in Saskatchewan**

Saskatchewan’s \$28 in provincial per capita investment in the cultural industries is the highest level in Canada. Quebec ranks second at \$21 per person, and Ontario ranks a distant third at \$9 per capita. In 2009/10, the average of all 10 provinces was \$11 per person.

Among the cultural industries “line items”, \$15.1 million was spent on film and video in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan’s film and video spending represents the highest provincial per capita level (\$15 per person) and is the third-largest absolute funding level for film and video among the provinces (behind Quebec and Alberta, but ahead of Ontario’s funding amount).

Saskatchewan provincial spending on arts and cultural industries combined – \$40 per person – is 2<sup>nd</sup> among the 10 provinces, behind only Quebec (\$46).

## **Increase in provincial investment in the arts, but Saskatchewan spending is still in the middle of the provinces**

Between 2003/04 and 2009/10, provincial government spending on the arts increased substantially. After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan provincial spending on the arts rose from \$6.3 million in 2003/04 to \$13.1 million in 2009/10, a 107% increase.<sup>3</sup> These figures include direct spending on arts education, performing arts, and visual arts and crafts.

After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan's per capita spending on the arts increased from just over \$6 in 2003/04 to just under \$13 in 2009/10. Saskatchewan's ranking among the provinces increased from 7<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> during this period.

## **Increase in provincial investment in the cultural industries**

After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan provincial spending on the cultural industries increased from \$21.4 million in 2003/04 to \$28.5 million in 2009/10, a 34% increase.<sup>4</sup> These figures include direct spending on film and video, literary arts/publishing, broadcasting, and sound recording.

After adjusting for inflation, Saskatchewan's per capita spending on the cultural industries increased from \$21 in 2003/04 to \$28 in 2009/10. Saskatchewan's ranking among the provinces increased from 2<sup>nd</sup> (behind Quebec) to 1<sup>st</sup> during this period.

## **Other combinations of "arts" spending**

The above definitions of "arts" and "cultural industries" conform to standard Statistics Canada practice. However, some other categories include artistic components, such as support for art galleries in the museums category (within heritage), support for authors in the literary arts/publishing category, and support for filmmakers in the film and video category.

- a) If arts and museum spending is grouped together, the Saskatchewan per capita figure would be very low (\$20), ranking 8<sup>th</sup> among the provinces, ahead of only Manitoba (\$17) and British Columbia (\$8). The average of all 10 provinces is \$25 per person.
- b) If arts and literary arts/publishing spending is grouped together, the Saskatchewan per capita figure would be \$14, ranking 5<sup>th</sup> among the provinces (close to the average of \$13 in all 10 provinces).
- c) If spending on both the literary arts/publishing and museums is grouped with the arts, the Saskatchewan per capita figure of \$22 would rank 7<sup>th</sup> among the provinces (below the average of \$26 in all 10 provinces).

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<sup>3</sup> The 2003/04 figure was adjusted upwards to be equal to its post-inflation value as of 2009/10.

<sup>4</sup> The 2003/04 figure was adjusted upwards to be equal to its post-inflation value as of 2009/10.

- d) If film and video funding is added to arts spending, the Saskatchewan spending amount would be \$27 per person, ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> among the provinces behind Newfoundland (\$29) and Quebec (\$31). The average of all provinces is \$16 per person.

## Section 5: Provincial government spending on cultural line items

The question in this section is: For which cultural line items does Saskatchewan have particularly low or high provincial funding? Readers are cautioned that the interpretation of individual line item data is subject to more potential errors than the previous analysis because of the greater likelihood of respondents responding incorrectly or not fully understanding the line-item definitions.

In Saskatchewan, provincial spending on the performing arts (\$6.59 per person) is very similar to the national average (\$6.72).

Provincial spending on arts education is low in Saskatchewan (\$0.34 per person) compared with the national average of \$3.99. Readers should note that the Statistics Canada definition of arts education is very particular and excludes most spending in formal educational settings. “Included are expenditures associated with the teaching of the arts both at national schools (such as the National Ballet School in Toronto and the National Theatre School in Montreal) and at arts institutions (such as Holland College of Visual Arts, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Ontario College of Art, Kootenay School of Art, Emily Carr College of Art and Design, Mennonite Brethren Bible/Art College and conservatories of music and dramatic arts). Excluded are expenditures associated with the teaching of the arts at educational institutions (elementary and secondary schools, and college and university institutions).”

Provincial spending on museums is low in Saskatchewan (\$7.49 per person) relative to the national average of \$12.42.

In Saskatchewan, film and video receives \$15 per capita, the highest provincial per capita spending for this line item and well above the national average of \$3.

Provincial spending on heritage is relatively high in Saskatchewan (\$46 per capita compared with the national average of \$23). This is largely due to particularly high spending on nature/provincial parks (\$29 per capita in Saskatchewan compared to the national average of just \$3).

Provincial spending on libraries is above the national average (\$51 in Saskatchewan compared with \$33 nationwide).



## **Section 6: Provincial government grants, transfers and contributions to the arts and culture**

This section examines provincial government grants, transfers and contributions to organizations and individuals in the arts and culture. While capital grants are included in these calculations (along with operating and project grants), Saskatchewan provincial capital grants were very small in 2009/10 (only \$26,000, which went to multidisciplinary and other activities).

The overall granting figure for all cultural areas is followed by a breakdown for the arts and cultural industries.

### **Overall cultural grants are higher in Saskatchewan than in any other province**

Saskatchewan provincial grants to culture totaled \$92.7 million in 2009/10. Saskatchewan's per capita granting level (\$90) ranks 1<sup>st</sup> among the provinces, slightly ahead of Newfoundland and Labrador (\$87) and well ahead of Alberta (\$78) and Quebec (\$74). The average of all 10 provinces is \$55.

### **Much lower grants to the arts than to the cultural industries**

In Saskatchewan, provincial arts grants were \$12.6 million in 2009/10. On a per capita basis, provincial government grants to the arts were \$12 (including arts education, performing arts, and visual arts and crafts). The \$12 per capita in provincial arts granting in Saskatchewan ranks 4<sup>th</sup> among the 10 provinces, behind Alberta, Quebec and Nova Scotia (all of which are at \$15 per capita). The average of all 10 provinces is \$9 per capita.

Saskatchewan provincial grants to the cultural industries (including literary arts/publishing, film and video, broadcasting, and sound recording) were \$16.6 million in 2009/10, equivalent to \$16 per capita. This is the highest per capita level of provincial government grants to the cultural industries (well ahead of the national average of \$6 per capita).

Almost all of the cultural industries granting went to film and video (\$15.1 million, or \$15 per capita). This is by far the highest provincial per capita granting for this line item (far above the Canadian average of \$3 per person).

## Other combinations of “arts” grants

As was the case with the overall spending figures, it is interesting to examine other combinations of arts grants, because other cultural line items include artistic components, such as support for art galleries in the museums category, support for authors in the literary arts/publishing category, and support for filmmakers in the film and video category.

- a) If arts and museum grants are grouped together, the Saskatchewan per capita figure would be \$17, ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> among the provinces. The average of all 10 provinces is \$11 per person.
- b) If grants for the arts and the literary arts/publishing are grouped together, the Saskatchewan per capita figure would be \$14, ranking 4<sup>th</sup> among the provinces (above the average of \$10 in all 10 provinces).
- c) If grants to both the literary arts/publishing and museums are combined with grants to the arts, the Saskatchewan per capita figure of \$19 would rank 3<sup>rd</sup> among the provinces. This is well above the average of \$12 in all 10 provinces.
- d) If film and video grants are added to arts grants, Saskatchewan would rank 1<sup>st</sup> among the provinces. Saskatchewan provincial grants to the arts, film and video amount to \$27 per person (more than double the average of \$12 in all 10 provinces).

## Section 7: Detailed tables

**Table 1: Provincial / territorial spending on culture  
by category in 2009/10 (in thousands of dollars)**

Province	Arts	Cultural industries	Libraries	Heritage	Other	Total
NL	\$13,738	\$1,679	\$33,230	\$22,970	\$7,786	<b>\$79,401</b>
PEI	\$1,676	\$262	\$7,855	\$6,900	\$1,491	<b>\$18,184</b>
NS	\$14,088	\$4,691	\$31,098	\$39,923	\$5,902	<b>\$95,702</b>
NB	\$7,316	\$2,345	\$31,720	\$30,079	\$8,838	<b>\$80,297</b>
QC	\$195,871	\$166,106	\$234,383	\$165,074	\$220,260	<b>\$981,694</b>
ON	\$73,588	\$114,880	\$313,186	\$279,682	\$37,336	<b>\$818,673</b>
MB	\$9,617	\$7,121	\$57,805	\$56,899	\$11,781	<b>\$143,224</b>
<b>SK</b>	<b>\$13,060</b>	<b>\$28,512</b>	<b>\$52,298</b>	<b>\$47,158</b>	<b>\$12,128</b>	<b>\$153,155</b>
AB	\$64,687	\$25,721	\$179,738	\$76,877	\$26,815	<b>\$373,839</b>
BC	\$20,775	\$14,257	\$167,321	\$24,525	\$12,287	<b>\$239,163</b>
YT	\$945	\$1,481	\$2,845	\$10,622	\$5,286	<b>\$21,179</b>
NT	\$307	\$140	\$2,378	\$5,995	\$1,137	<b>\$9,957</b>
NU	\$275	\$150	\$1,875	\$2,168	\$4,514	<b>\$8,982</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>\$415,943</b>	<b>\$367,345</b>	<b>\$1,115,730</b>	<b>\$768,872</b>	<b>\$355,559</b>	<b>\$3,023,449</b>

**Table 2: Provincial / territorial per capita spending on culture  
by category in 2009/10**

Province	Arts	Cultural industries	Libraries	Heritage	Other	Total
NL	\$27	\$3	\$65	\$45	\$15	<b>\$156</b>
PEI	\$12	\$2	\$56	\$49	\$11	<b>\$129</b>
NS	\$15	\$5	\$33	\$42	\$6	<b>\$102</b>
NB	\$10	\$3	\$42	\$40	\$12	<b>\$107</b>
QC	\$25	\$21	\$30	\$21	\$28	<b>\$125</b>
ON	\$6	\$9	\$24	\$21	\$3	<b>\$63</b>
MB	\$8	\$6	\$47	\$47	\$10	<b>\$117</b>
<b>SK</b>	<b>\$13</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$51</b>	<b>\$46</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$149</b>
AB	\$18	\$7	\$49	\$21	\$7	<b>\$102</b>
BC	\$5	\$3	\$38	\$5	\$3	<b>\$54</b>
YT	\$28	\$44	\$84	\$315	\$157	<b>\$628</b>
NT	\$7	\$3	\$55	\$138	\$26	<b>\$228</b>
NU	\$9	\$5	\$58	\$67	\$140	<b>\$279</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>\$12</b>	<b>\$11</b>	<b>\$33</b>	<b>\$23</b>	<b>\$11</b>	<b>\$90</b>

<b>Table 3: Ranking of provincial per capita spending on culture by category in 2009/10</b>						
<b>Province</b>	<b>Arts</b>	<b>Cultural industries</b>	<b>Libraries</b>	<b>Heritage</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
NL	1	7	1	4	2	<b>1</b>
PEI	6	10	2	1	5	<b>3</b>
NS	4	6	8	5	8	<b>8</b>
NB	7	9	6	6	3	<b>6</b>
QC	2	2	9	8	1	<b>4</b>
ON	9	3	10	7	9	<b>9</b>
MB	8	5	5	2	6	<b>5</b>
<b>SK</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
AB	3	4	4	9	7	<b>7</b>
BC	10	8	7	10	10	<b>10</b>
YT	Excluded from the provincial rankings					
NT						
NU						
<b>Canada</b>						