

AUGUST 2024 MONTH IN REVIEW

# Saskatchewan

## **LAWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Minimum Wage**

Oct 1: Saskatchewan will still have Canada's lowest minimum wage after its general minimum wage finally reaches \$15 per hour today. But to be fair, the province also has the lowest inflation rate in the country with a year-over-year Consumer Price Index increase of just 1.6% in July.

### **New Laws**

Aug 22: The Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan inked a new 10-year agreement that will provide the province \$350 million over the first 5 years (including \$66 million for fiscal year 2024-2025) from the Canada Community Benefit Fund (CCBF) to invest in infrastructure development projects across Saskatchewan.

### **New Laws**

Aug 8: Saskatchewan began accepting [applications](#) for the Critical Minerals Processing Investment Incentive (CMPII) and Critical Minerals Innovation Incentive (SCMII) to fund extraction and processing of 11 critical minerals found in the province, including copper, zinc, magnesium, nickel and rare earth elements.

### **New Laws**

Aug 1: Saskatchewan and the federal government will provide over \$1 million to launch the Dziret'áí Pilot Training Program to provide skills and academic upgrading to students in the northern part of the province where air travel can be difficult due

to the lack of pilots. Starting in January 2025, students who complete the 2-year program will be guaranteed jobs as First Officers with the airline Rise Air.

## CASES

### **Labour Relations: Union Doesn't Have to Disclose How Many Workers Voted for Certification**

A town fighting with the union over the conduct of its certification vote asked the union to disclose the total number of employees who voted for certification. The union refused and the case went to the Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board, which sided with the union. While certification information is generally confidential, the law allows for exceptions in the interest of procedural fairness which applies when disclosure is necessary to enable a person involved in a legal case to understand and defend the case against them. But the Board ruled that the town didn't need the total support numbers in this case and that the information was privileged anyway [[CUPE v The Town of Preeceville](#), 2024 CanLII 73795 (SK LRB), August 6, 2024].