Housing Options for Saskatchewan Seniors

PROVINCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF OLDER PERSONS
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Introduction

In June 2000, the provincial government established the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons to identify the needs of Saskatchewan seniors and the means of addressing them through government policy. The Committee’s *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons* identified six strategic goals, supported by a range of recommended actions to ensure the availability and access to a continuum of quality programs and services for seniors, to encourage healthy and active living, and the safety and security of all older persons.

One of the goals identified in the *Provincial Policy Framework and Action Plan for Older Persons* was: **Ensure provision of and access to affordable and supportive housing and services for older persons.** Each goal has a number of specific recommendations; one of the housing recommendations was: **Develop and make available to the public a list of housing options in each regional health authority and ensure better coordination of all housing initiatives.**

To that end, the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons, in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, developed this document. This document provides housing information about public and private programs and services that are of particular interest to seniors.

For inquiries or assistance, please contact:

**Saskatchewan Ministry of Health**
3475 Albert Street
Regina, SK S4S 6X6
Telephone: 1-800-667-7766
Or visit: [www.health.gov.sk.ca](http://www.health.gov.sk.ca)

**Saskatchewan Housing Corporation**
6th Floor, Victoria Tower
1855 Victoria Avenue
Regina, SK S4P 3T2
Telephone: 1-800-667-7567 (ext) 9313
Or visit: [www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/housing](http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/housing)
These residences are income-assisted and may also be subsidized.

1. Rental Housing for Seniors

The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) provides
government-subsidized rental housing for low to moderate-income
seniors in more than 280 communities across the province.

There are two kinds of rental housing programs, both which
subsidize the capital and operating costs of SHC-owned and
specified non-profit housing to allow tenants to pay lower rents
than they would in the private housing market. Rents are calculated
differently for both programs. The Social Housing Program for low-
income seniors provides rents based on a sliding scale that takes
into account a tenant’s ability to pay. The Affordable Housing
Program for lower to moderate-income seniors provides rents that
are fixed at or below the private market level for rent.

For more information, contact your local housing authority at
1-800-667-7567 (ext) 9313 or visit
www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/programs-services/housing
Saskatchewan Assisted Living Services (SALS)

SALS is a group of services available to tenants of selected government-subsidized rental housing for seniors in approximately 70 communities throughout the province. Housing groups manage rental housing, collaborate with their community to coordinate access to affordable services for seniors that encourage social interaction, and enhance a senior’s ability to live independently. Arranging for services for many tenants rather than tenants accessing services individually makes costs for the services more affordable for tenants.

Services may include a maximum of one meal per day served in a common eating area, laundry and housekeeping, personal response system for unscheduled needs, social/recreational activities, and other interdependence-building services based on tenant interest and the community’s ability to provide the services. Participation in all services is optional. Tenants choose which services they wish to receive and pay the provider for those services.

For more information, contact your local housing authority at 1-800-667-7567 (ext) 9313 or visit www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/programs-services/housing
2. Special-Care Homes

Typically, persons requiring higher levels of care use special-care home services. The primary role of the publicly subsidized special-care home system is to meet the needs of individuals with heavy care needs that cannot be met through home care, housing, or other community-based options. However, this could include individuals classified as light care but with circumstances that require placement in a special-care home. To make the best use of special-care home resources, individuals are admitted on the basis of assessed need.

Assessments are done by local Regional Health Authorities (see pages 12 to 13 for a complete listing). Most Regional Health Authorities offer the person with the greatest need and living at the greatest risk the first available bed with the option to transfer to the facility of their choice when a bed becomes available there.

Residents pay an income-tested charge based on annual income, plus earned interest; resident income information is submitted annually. Personal assets such as land, houses, bank accounts, etc., are not taken into account in determining the resident charge. Monthly fees are adjusted quarterly.
Private Options

In this category residents are wholly responsible for expenses incurred. Accommodation and services may vary.

1. Own Dwelling

Residing in your own home requires the owner to be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep. Persons choosing this option should investigate the *Programs and Services to Support Seniors Living at Home* (see pages 8 and 9) to determine if they are eligible for assistance.

2. Abbeyfield Housing

Abbeyfield Housing is a non-profit housing concept that develops affordable housing for seniors through local volunteer organizations. The housing is developed in a way that supports independence while providing a supportive environment. Tenants have their own bedroom/sitting area and bathroom. There are communal kitchen and living areas. There is also a 24-hour, non-medical staff person on site. Rents are set at break-even levels. In Saskatchewan, there are currently two Abbeyfield homes located in Prince Albert and Saskatoon.

For more information, phone Abbeyfield Houses Society of Canada at 416-920-7483 or visit the Society’s website at [www.abbeyfield.ca](http://www.abbeyfield.ca)
3. Townhouse/Condominium/Apartment

Townhouses, condominiums or apartments, whether owned or rented, may entitle the owner to some services offered by the private developer (such as lawn cutting, and snow removal). As with owning a home, persons choosing this option should investigate the *Programs and Services to Support Seniors Living at Home* (see pages 8 and 9) to determine if they are eligible for assistance.

4. Assisted/Enriched Living (Retirement Living)

Private developers have built complexes where seniors live in individual suites, and which may include three meals per day, laundry and housekeeping services as part of the rent, and sometimes other services as well. Amenity space is usually available for social/recreational activities, and scheduled transportation to local community shopping centres, etc. is usually provided.

5. Personal Care Homes

Personal care homes are privately owned and operated facilities. They provide another option to adults who generally do not require the health services of a special-care home (see page 5), but who need to receive assistance or supervision with personal care. Personal care homes require a licence to operate and must comply with the requirements under *The Personal Care Homes Act*. Before deciding if a personal care home is right for you, consider visiting the home to view the accommodation and services.

For more information about the personal care homes program, contact the Ministry of Health, at 306-787-1715 or visit the Ministry of Health’s website at [www.health.gov.sk.ca/personal-care-homes](http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/personal-care-homes)
Living At Home

1. Saskatchewan Housing Corporation Repair Programs

The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) helps provide affordable housing for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities.

SHC has a number of repair programs offering loans and grants to low-income homeowners and landlords who house low-income tenants.

- senior/disability modifications
- property repairs
- energy upgrades

For more information, contact the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation at 306-787-4177 in Regina or call toll-free 1-800-667-7567 (ext) 9313 or visit the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation website at www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/programs-services/housing

You may also consider contacting your local seniors organization for assistance.
2. Home Care

The Ministry of Health’s Home Care Program, offered through Regional Health Authorities, assists many seniors with health conditions who may require acute, palliative or supportive care in order to live independently longer, in the comfort of their homes. Home Care assists people in maintaining their quality of life and provides support for people who may otherwise have to be in a hospital or long-term care facility. Admission to the Home Care program is based on assessed need that is determined through the assessment process. An assessment can be requested by contacting your Regional Health Authority.

Case management/assessment, home nursing, physical and occupational therapy services are provided at no cost to the individual. Individuals receiving meals, personal care, respite care, homemaking and home maintenance are charged fees based on income and the amount of care required. Home care clients may apply for an income tested subsidy to reduce those charges.

Some services once available only in hospitals may now be delivered at home. For example, some people who need intravenous antibiotic therapy and palliative care may now receive these services in their own homes.

For more information, contact your local Regional Health Authority (see pages 12 and 13 for a complete listing).
1. Office of Residential Tenancies

The Office of Residential Tenancies provides advice to residential landlords and tenants about their rights and obligations. It also adjudicates disputes between landlords and tenants.

Regina Office
120-2151 Scarth Street
Regina SK  S4P 2H8
Phone: 306-787-2699
Toll-free: 1-888-215-2222
Fax: 306-787-5574

Saskatoon Office
Main Floor, Sturdy Stone Building
122-3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon SK  S7K 2H6
Phone: 306-933-5680
Toll-free: 1-888-215-2222
Fax: 306-933-7030
2. Ombudsman Saskatchewan

Ombudsman Saskatchewan is an independent office, headed by the Provincial Ombudsman. The Legislative Assembly appoints the Ombudsman. As a result, the office is separate from the government of the day and free to come to its own conclusions.

Ombudsman Saskatchewan takes complaints about provincial government services, including a decision or action, a failure to act, or a delay in service. In addition, they take complaints about provincial government, including ministries (departments), agencies, crown corporations, boards and commissions.

Regina Office
150-2401 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina SK S4P 4H8
Phone: 306-787-6211
Toll-free: 1-800-667-7180
Fax: 306-787-9090
E-mail: ombreg@ombudsman.sk.ca

Saskatoon Office
315-25th Street East
Saskatoon SK S7K 2H6
Phone: 306-933-5500
Toll-free: 1-800-667-9787
E-mail: omsktn@ombudsman.sk.ca
Regional Health Authority

Contacts

Athabasca
Box 124
Black Lake SK S0J 0H0
Phone: 306-439-2200
Fax: 306-439-2212

Cypress
429-4th Avenue North East
Swift Current SK S9H 2J9
Phone: 306-778-5100
Fax: 306-773-9513

Five Hills
455 Fairford Street East
Moose Jaw SK S6H 1H3
Phone: 306-694-0296
Toll-free: 1-888-425-1111
Fax: 306-694-0282

Heartland
Box 2110
Rosetown SK S0L 2V0
Phone: 306-882-4111
Fax: 306-882-1389

Keewatin Yatthé
Box 40
Buffalo Narrows SK S0M 0J0
Phone: 306-235-2220
Toll-free: 1-866-274-8506
Fax: 306-235-2229

Kelsey Trail
Box 1780
Tisdale SK S0E 1T0
Phone: 306-873-6600
Fax: 306-873-6605

Mamawetan Churchill River
Box 6000
La Ronge SK S0J 1L0
Phone: 306-425-2422
Fax: 306-425-5432
Regional Health Authority

Contacts

**Prairie North**
1092 107th Street
North Battleford SK S9A 1Z1
Phone: 306-446-6622
Fax: 306-446-4114

**Saskatoon**
6th Floor
Royal University Hospital
103 Hospital Drive
Saskatoon SK S7N 0W8
Phone: 306-655-1576
Fax: 306-655-1037

**Prince Albert Parkland**
Box 5700
2345 10th Avenue West
Prince Albert SK S6V 7V6
Phone: 306-765-6100
Toll-free: 1-800-922-1834
Fax: 306-765-6096

**Sun Country**
Box 2003
Weyburn SK S4H 2Z9
Phone: 306-842-8718
Fax: 306-842-8738

**Regina Qu’Appelle**
2180 23rd Avenue
Regina SK S4S 0A5
Phone: 306-766-5365
Toll-free: 1-888-354-8111
Fax: 306-766-5414

**Sunrise**
270 Bradbrooke Drive
Yorkton SK S3N 2K6
Phone: 306-786-0103
Fax: 306-786-0122
Regional Health Authorities
Contacts

Prince Albert
230 8th Street East
Prince Albert SK S6V 0V7
Phone: 306-953-7420
Fax: 306-764-0970

Saskatoon
525 24th Street East
Saskatoon SK S7K 0K9
Phone: 306-668-2700
Fax: 306-668-2701

For other housing authorities in northern Saskatchewan, call toll free: 1-800-667-9656 and you will be routed to the appropriate northern housing authority.

Moose Jaw
255 Caribou Street West
Moose Jaw SK S6H 7W3
Phone: 306-694-4055
Fax: 306-694-2021

Regina
1850 Smith Street
Regina SK S4P 2N3
Phone: 306-525-2377
Fax: 306-347-7812

For other housing authorities in southern Saskatchewan, call toll free: 1-800-814-8688 and you will be routed to the appropriate housing authority.
Saskatchewan Housing Corporation

Delivery System

NORTHERN HOUSING OPERATIONS

La Loche
Non-Profit

Buffalo Narrows
Regional

Beaver River
Regional

La Ronge
Regional

Northeast
Regional

Prince Albert

Saskatoon

Moose Jaw

Regina

CENTRAL

WESTERN

SOUTHEAST