



2026 PATHS TO PROSPERITY PROVINCIAL SUMMIT connecting the dots.

October 26-28, 2026
Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon



Connecting the Dots: How to find Ideas that Matter

Emmy award innovator **Bill Stainton** will launch the summit by showing us how to uncover game-changing ideas...simply by making unexpected connections—between challenges, trends, observations, and overlooked opportunities. You and your team will leave knowing how to tap into your creative problem-solving skills - and spot the patterns, possibilities and ideas that others miss.



From Silos To Systems: Connecting The Dots to Local & Provincial Prosperity

Community Builder **Brenda Herchmer** invites delegates to move beyond siloed efforts and strengthen their work within a living economic ecosystem. Municipal administrators and elected officials, Indigenous governments, economic developers, parks and recreation providers, community builders, innovation networks, funders, and private-sector partners each play a critical role in the strategies required to grow local and provincial economic, social, cultural, and environmental well-being and prosperity

Building the Missing Middle: Unlocking Small and Medium Food Processing in Saskatchewan's Food System

Canada's food system is missing a critical middle: small and medium processors that connect farms to markets, reduce supply-chain risk, and drive local economic growth. **Dr. Sylvain Charlebois** (Canada's 'Food Professor') examines why this gap exists in Saskatchewan, where opportunities are emerging, and how communities can play a strategic role in closing it. The session will highlight investment trends, and practical community-level actions that support processing innovation and long-term resilience.



North Star, Not Silver Bullet

Empowering people with purpose underlines the work of **David Hughes, President and CEO of Generate Canada**. He leads a national organization that brings together problem-solvers to collaboratively generate, test, and scale wicked solutions to the most complex challenges of our time. Learn about Generate Canada's 'Solution Spaces' that move ideas through small experiments and nudges that build momentum over time.

Super Early Bird Planning Rate \$100 off Registration Prior to June 15

For those who know they're attending, this is the best rate of the year. Secure your spot early and lock in preferred pricing before registration increases on June 16.

Register at www.saskleaders.com



In Collaboration With:



Sponsored by:





Oct 26

Pre-Summit Options

Community Safety & Well-being Forum

10:30 am to 5:00 pm

Sponsored by the Ministry of Justice.

The forum will share best practices in identifying and addressing potential risks to the health and well-being of urban and rural communities.

Economic Development Fundamentals for Elected Officials & Administrative Staff

9:00 am to 4:30 pm

This full day session will equip participants with foundational economic development concepts and strategies and equip them with steps necessary to identify opportunities and establish action plans to turn possibilities into reality.



Connect the Dots: Burger Bar Social

Oct 27

5 to 7:30 pm

Capitol Music Club

Enjoy a build-your-own burger station and visit the full service bar to purchase a beverage of your choice.



Oct 27-28

Social Procurement in Action

The City of Saskatoon is turning procurement into a practical tool for inclusion, local economic growth, and stronger communities. Presenter James Dixon will share lessons learned that other municipalities and organizations can apply.

Readiness Roadmap: Steps to Building a High Performing Regional Ecosystem

SEDA will share its new Investment Readiness Guidebook and Asset Mapping Roadmap. Discover how to connect ALL the dots' between industry and community and provide a foundation for opportunity identification and strategy development.

Short-line Rail: What is Coming Down the Track

Short line railways are a critical link in Saskatchewan's supply chain. This session explores the evolving role of short line rail in Saskatchewan, highlights where growth and innovation are taking shape, and looks ahead at what these developments could mean for economic development, and regional competitiveness

Across the Spectrum: Defense Industry Opportunities

Canada's defense and security sector is expanding, creating new opportunities for Saskatchewan businesses to enter and grow within national and global supply chains. This session explores where current and emerging defense opportunities exist, and how Saskatchewan firms can align their capabilities with industry and government needs.

Building Destination Brands that Compete

Presenter Ryan Townend, CEO of William Joseph will present a clear call to action for leaders across tourism, economic development, and community organizations- to define your authentic truth, align your story, and build a brand that inspires people not only to visit, but to belong, invest, and believe.

Reimagining Community Recreation and Parks

This session will outline how recreation and parks can function as relational infrastructure that foster connection and belonging, strengthen intersectional collaboration, and support long-term sustainability. Through interactive dialogue, participants will explore distinctions between relational and transactional practices and identify opportunities for reimagining recreation and parks as essential drivers of well-being and prosperity.

Shared Purpose for Long Term Growth

Discover how seven rural urbans have assessed their joint viability in the context of ratepayer services and operations. Discover the next steps in their journey to ensure resources are available for future investments in this region.



From the Vault
Presentations by MITACs, Province of Saskatchewan, and other partners will illustrate how they can plug into community, recreation and economic development plans.

Shared Value: Creating Rural & Urban Tourism Opportunities

'Discover Saskatoon' is working to extend the visitor experience beyond city limits by collaborating with rural communities to create compelling itineraries and experiences for urban visitors. This session explores how regional collaboration and curated itineraries can strengthen both urban and rural tourism, creating shared value across the visitor economy.

Rural Innovation: Building Start-up Ecosystems

Suncrest College and Southeast College are helping reshape rural entrepreneurship by launching startup ecosystems designed for small communities and regional businesses. Learn how to activate a start-up ecosystem and strengthen your rural economy through education driven entrepreneurship.

Building Community-Driven Housing: The Northeast Inter-municipal Co-op Project

Community-driven housing projects are gaining momentum — but many stall when grassroots vision meets institutional funding criteria. This session explores how communities can move from local need and engagement to fundable, scalable housing projects. The session will also unpack why many housing programs require a critical mass of builds, and what strategies communities can use — such as phased development, regional collaboration, or bundled projects — to meet eligibility requirements.

Workshop: How-to's For Moving From Silos to Systems

As a follow-up to her keynote presentation, Brenda Herchmer will explore frameworks and resources for applying essential strategies to motivate, mobilize, and maximize communities as ecosystems.

Additional sessions to be announced.

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Hotel Accommodations

Saskatoon has a several large events scheduled during the week of October 26. We encourage delegates to reserve hotel accommodations prior to September 1.

Sheraton Cavalier Summit Host

Complimentary parking for overnight guests with 185 spots available in underground and above ground parking. [Book the group rate for SEDA Provincial Summit 2026](#)

Park Town Hotel Summit Partner

Complimentary surface parking for guests and complimentary shuttle service available. Call 306-244-5564 and quote block name "SEDA" or the block code "2610SEDA"