



# CLIMATE COMMITMENT AND CALL TO ACTION:

## City of Saskatoon and University of Saskatchewan



The City of Saskatoon and the University of Saskatchewan are working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt infrastructure, services, and programs for the future impacts of a changing climate. Both organizations have committed to pursuing sustainable actions that achieve environmental, social, and economic benefits.

Climate change is an urgent and accelerating policy challenge impacting Saskatoon. It is transforming our seasons towards wetter winters, drier summers, and more extreme weather events and storms. Climate action provides resilience and risk management for future issues and impacts.

To minimize risk and maximize co-benefits, integrated climate action is required, which addresses mitigation and adaptation while supporting reconciliation, equity, diversity and inclusion. We understand that without actions to address climate change, we will be left behind, and conversely, equitable climate action leaves no-one behind. Taking a human-centred approach to climate action protects the rights of the most vulnerable, shares the burdens of climate change, and manages the resources required to address its impacts fairly.

This is a joint pledge by the City of Saskatoon and University of Saskatchewan to accelerate the transition to a low-emission community. This commitment recognizes the need to enhance sustainable and resilient practices and that action that is needed to slow, and ultimately prevent the rise in the global average temperature and to facilitate the equitable transition to a clean energy economy.

We commit to demonstrating leadership and support for climate mitigation and adaptation actions within our community. In doing so, we issue a call to action and invite others to join in a public disclosure of their own commitments and actions which work towards these climate goals. Our collective documents provide climate strategies, targets and actions that are relevant to our organizations and the wider community. This commitment acknowledges that we achieve more by working together; collectively we pledge to improve and accelerate equitable climate performance in the following areas:

- ✓ **Collaboration:** Actively seek out opportunities for the University of Saskatchewan and the City of Saskatoon to work together to advance equitable climate action goals.
- ✓ **Reconciliation, Decolonization and Indigenization:** Work together with Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to weave Indigenous concepts, languages, teachings, and philosophies into our mutual approach to climate change.
- ✓ **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:** Promote just climate action and work with partner associations and between affiliates to pursue climate equity. Collaborate to gain shared understanding of best practice and support capacity-building. Seek out diversity in engagement, with special consideration for youth voices and perspectives.
- ✓ **Buildings and Energy Efficiency:** Target lower energy consumption and improved energy efficiencies.
- ✓ **Sustainable Transportation:** Actively encourage and endorse use of transit, active transportation, and a zero-emissions vehicle fleet.
- ✓ **Sustainable Land Use:** Promote sustainable land development, including higher density and infill.
- ✓ **Solid Waste Reduction:** Participate in regional waste reduction and diversion efforts.
- ✓ **Renewable Energy:** Jointly pursue, develop and implement a timely transition from non-renewable to renewable energy sources.
- ✓ **Water Conservation:** Manage and reduce water use, to support the protection the South Saskatchewan River watershed, equitable access and reduced GHG emissions.
- ✓ **Environmental Protection and Ecosystem Stewardship:** Protect natural spaces, species and watersheds and support the green network.
- ✓ **Leadership:** Lead by example, promote embedding climate action, and engage in local dialogue. Provide leadership and facilitate collaboration in the public sphere to advance understanding and support for climate action amongst the public, decision-makers and stakeholders.
- ✓ **Accountability:** Create targets and track progress in a clear, publicly accessible, accurate and transparent manner. Regularly report on status of joint climate commitment. Refresh commitment regularly as needed to remain accountable and progress action.

Signature: 

Date: Sept 2, 2021

Signature: 

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