

# Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

**Saskatchewan Office**



P R O S P E C T U S



CCPA

CANADIAN CENTRE  
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES  
CENTRE CANADIEN  
de POLITIQUES ALTERNATIVES  
Saskatchewan



# CCPA SASKATCHEWAN

The CCPA's Saskatchewan Office was established in 2002 to help Saskatchewan explore workable policy alternatives to address the pressing social and economic issues that affect our province. Despite the small size of our office and staff, we have consistently punched above our weight, producing quality research and commentary that represent the best of the progressive traditions of social and economic justice that our province was built upon.

We monitor social and economic development in the province and present thoughtful alternatives to the narrow perspectives of corporate research institutes and government agencies.

Research projects and publications from the Saskatchewan Office have addressed issues such as: health care, K-12 and post-secondary education, environment, mega hog barns, provincial budgets, youth and unions, agriculture, public services and crown corporations, food charters, and tax cuts.

## **Original, hard-hitting research**

We work with top-notch researchers to shed light on the key issues facing Canada. Whether it's the push to privatize our health care system, the growing gap between the rich and the rest of us, or gas companies gouging us at the pump, we set the record straight.

## **Balanced debate**

CCPA research doesn't just sit on a shelf gathering dust. Every month, we are featured in hundreds of media stories. The CCPA is a strong and credible voice in news about issues like how to deal with surgical wait lists in health care, how we should use provincial and federal budget surpluses, the benefits of trade union membership ... and many others.

## **Myth-busting**

The CCPA debunks myths—like the myth that an aging population will cripple public health care, or that meeting our climate change obligations is a job-killer. Our monthly magazine, *The Monitor*, is packed with facts and analysis that will help you untangle the spin.

## **Solutions**

We don't just analyze problems. We work on solutions—solutions that show Canadians' best values are not only possible, they're practical. These ideas are anchored by some basic principles: human dignity and freedom, fairness, equality, environmental sustainability, and the public good. They show that we can afford to build a more just and sustainable Canada—and that our economy will be stronger for it.

## **Member funded and supported**

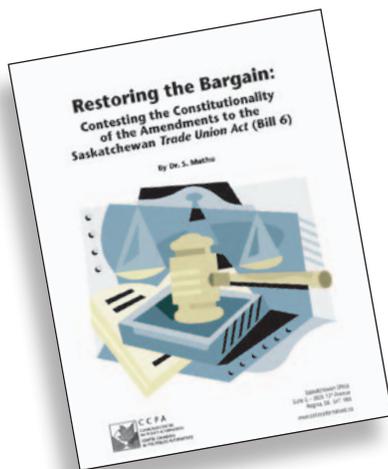
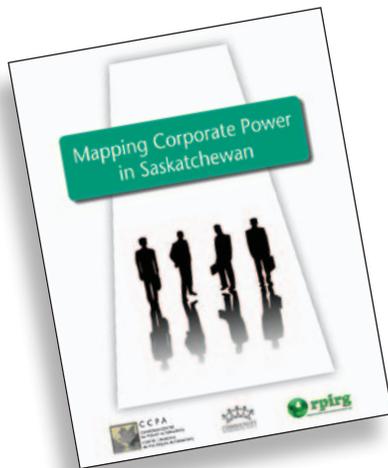
The CCPA is a registered non-profit charity. We depend on the support of our more than 12,000 members across Canada.





## LABOUR AND WORKER RIGHTS

The Saskatchewan Office has always placed priority on research that advances the rights of all workers throughout the province. Whether it is defending trade union rights and freedoms, strengthening health and safety provisions, advocating for a living wage or the impact of privatization on public services, the Saskatchewan Office has consistently produced quality research that illustrates the benefits we all enjoy thanks to a strong and vibrant labour movement.



### Reports and Studies

Mapping Corporate Power in Saskatchewan	2012
Impaired Judgement: The Economic and Social Consequences of Liquor Privatization in Western Canada	2012
Unions in a Democratic Society: A Response to the Consultation Paper on the Renewal of Labour Legislation in Saskatchewan	2012
The Shield or the Sword? The Saskatchewan Labour Legislation Review	2012
Cold Porridge: The NDP Labour Law Review	2011
Restoring the Bargain: Contesting the Constitutionality of the Amendments to the Saskatchewan Trade Union Act	2010
Solidarity Should Be Common Sense	2010
Exposure to Radiation and Health Outcomes	2009
Balancing the Scales of Pay Equity: The Need for Gender Analysis and Budgeting	2009
Joining the Race to the Bottom: An Assessment of Bill 6, Amendments to the Trade Union Act, 2008	2008
Essential Services Legislation: Will it Facilitate or Impair Industrial Relations?	2008
Shifting Times: The Perils of Shift Work	2007
TILMA's Supposed Economic Benefits for Saskatchewan	2007
Youth and Unions	2005
How to Make Work Work for All of Saskatchewan	2003
Public Services and Community Crowns: The Saskatchewan Way	2003

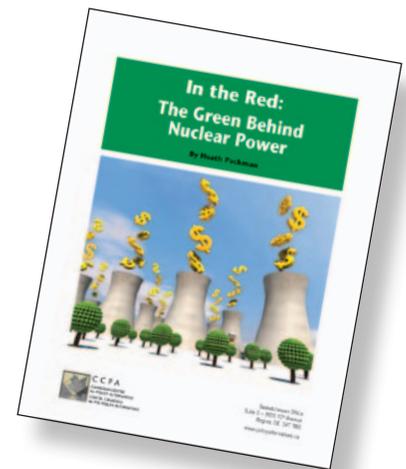
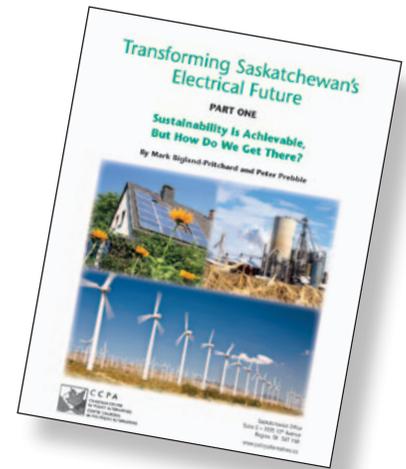
# ENVIRONMENT

From the inception of the Saskatchewan Office, environmental and sustainability issues have been front and centre in our research. In 2010, in partnership with Green Energy Project Saskatchewan, we released a ground-breaking series of reports that offered concrete and practical proposals to move Saskatchewan towards a renewable energy economy that would not only release us from our dependence on fossil fuels but also produce jobs, economic growth and democratic renewal.



## Reports and Studies

Lessons from Fukushima	2012
Transforming Saskatchewan's Electrical Future: The Public Policies Needed to Build a Renewable Energy Society in Saskatchewan	2011
Plugging the Gap: Sustainable Power Options to Complement Wind and Solar	2011
Transforming Saskatchewan's Electrical Future: The Potential for Wind and Solar Power	2011
Transforming Saskatchewan's Electrical Future: Using Electricity More Efficiently	2010
In the Red: The Green Behind Nuclear Power	2010
Exposure to Radiation and Health Outcomes	2009
Feed People First: How Biofuels are Contributing to Global Food Shortages and Price Increases	2009
Is Nuclear the Answer to Global Warming?	2007
Pesticide Issues in Saskatchewan: A Primer	2007
Is Saskatchewan's Natural Capital Going Up in Smoke?	2006
Building a Citizen's Good Food Policy	2004
Beyond Factory Farming: Corporate Hog Barns and the Threat to Public Health, the Environment, and Rural Communities	2003
How Saskatchewan Can Develop a Sustainable Environment and a Worker-Friendly Economy	2003



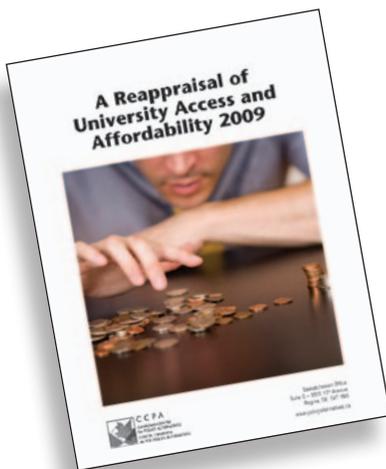
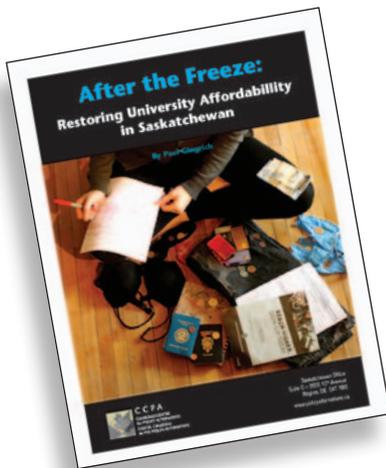


## EDUCATION

A strong publicly funded education system is the foundation of a just society. To this end, the Saskatchewan Office has viewed education issues as fundamental to our research mission. Since the creation of the office, we have consistently produced important reports and commentary on a wide range of education-related issues, including: the impact of high-stakes testing, university affordability, education reform, private money in public schools (including user fees, advertising, sponsorship and fundraising campaigns), education finance, and post-secondary education reform.

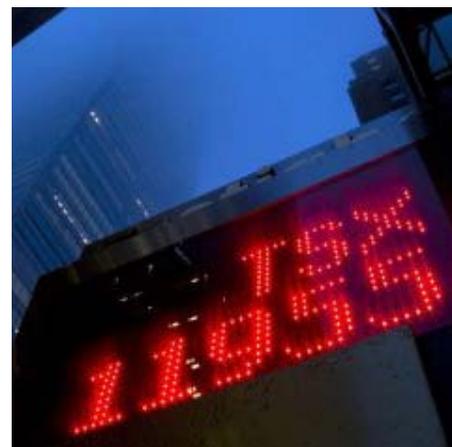
### Reports and Studies

After the Freeze: Restoring University Affordability in Saskatchewan	2012
Next Up Saskatchewan: New Leadership Program Trains Saskatchewan's Next Generation of Change-Makers	2011
Assessing Students' Ways of Knowing	2009
Will the New Property Tax System Save Our Neighbourhood Schools?	2009
A Reappraisal of University Access and Affordability 2009	2009
The Challenge to Maintain a Strong Public Education System in Saskatchewan	2007
Access to Post-Secondary Education: A Review of the McCall Interim Report	2007
Commercialism in Saskatchewan's Public Schools	2006
Improving Access to Affordable University Education in Saskatchewan	2004
Access to Post-Secondary Education: Does Class Still Matter?	2004
The Boughen Report's Hidden Agenda	2004
The People's Free University	2003
Commercializing Research at the University of Saskatchewan	2003
The Privatization of our Public Universities	2003
Strengthening Saskatchewan Communities through Education	2003



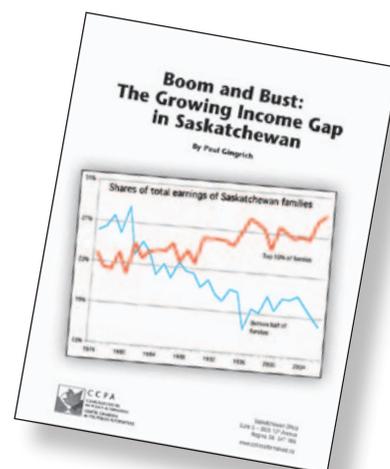
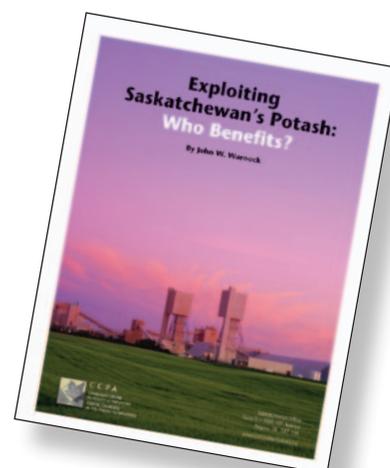
# ECONOMY

At the CCPA, we believe that the economy should first and foremost serve the needs of the people. Unlike the free-market triumphalism of so many corporate-funded policy institutes, the CCPA believes that the market should not be the final arbiter of our daily lives and that values such as solidarity, equality, ecological sustainability and democracy should take precedence over pure economic calculus.



## Reports and Studies

Saskatchewan's Anti-Poverty Plan, From Dependence to Independence, Does it Measure Up?	2013
Prairie Strong No Longer? Harper's Renewed Attack on the Canadian Wheat Board	2011
Exploiting Saskatchewan's Potash: Who Benefits?	2011
Let's Do Something About Poverty!	2010
Boom and Bust: The Growing Income Gap in Saskatchewan	2010
The Case for Affordable Housing in Regina	2009
Bridging the Gap from Poverty to Independence: The Role of Food Banks	2009
Financing the Health Care System: Is Long-Term Sustainability Possible?	2008
Will the Economic Boom Reduce Poverty in Saskatchewan?	2008
The Inner Cities of Saskatoon and Winnipeg: A New and Distinctive Form of Development	2008
Saskatchewan 2007 Alternative Budget	2007
Selling the Family Silver: Oil and Gas Royalties, Corporate Profits and the Disregarded Public	2006
Getting the Balance Right: Saskatchewan 2006 Alternative Budget	2006
Money for Nothing: The Vicq Committee's Corporate Tax Cuts	2005
Business Taxes in Saskatchewan: Taking Stock for Progressive and Effective Reform	2005
Natural Resources and Government Revenue: Recent Trends in Saskatchewan	2005
Saskatchewan's Farm Income Crisis	2004
Saskatchewan at a Crossroads: Fiscal Policy and Social Democratic Politics	2004





## SOCIAL MEDIA

One of the greatest strengths of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives is our active presence in social media. Through our provincial and national Facebook and Twitter feeds we reach over 12,000 concerned Canadians each and every day. All told, the CCPA's organic reach to unique visitors via social media is upwards of 180,000 people per month! The CCPA National Blog, *Behind the Numbers*, also offers a unique platform for all offices to respond to pressing social and economic issues in real time. Moreover, through our partnership with rabble media, select CCPA blog posts also appear nationwide through [rabble.ca](http://rabble.ca).

Our national web-site also offers a one-stop destination for progressive research and commentary. Last year alone, the Saskatchewan Office's research and commentary received over 75,000 page views while our reports and studies were downloaded over 30,000 times!



### Saskatchewan Office Commentaries and Blogs

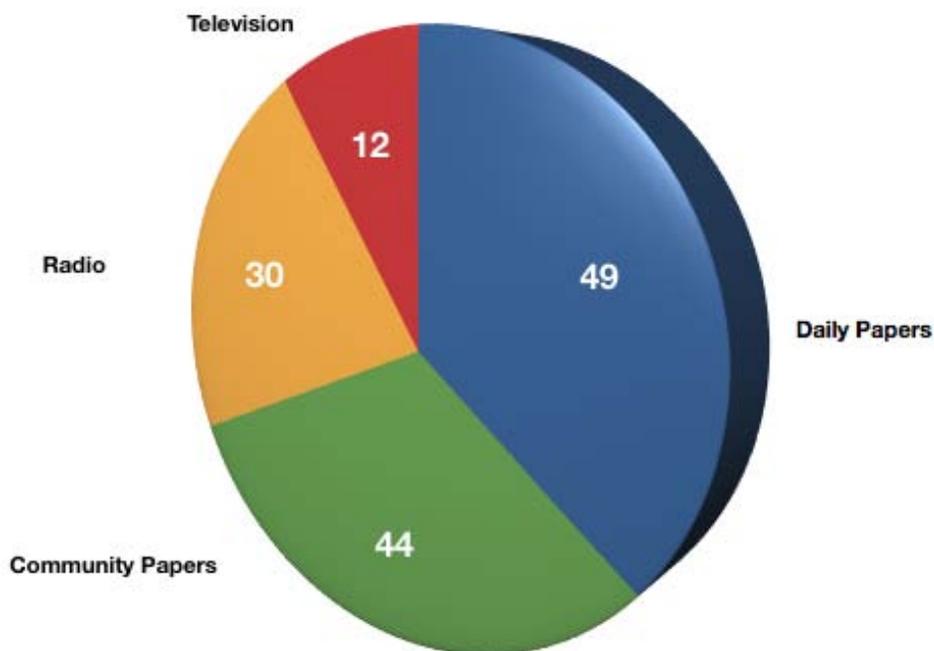
Saskatchewan 2013 Budget: Balanced Growth or Fiscal Myopia?	2013
The City of Regina's Unquenchable Thirst for Bad Ideas	2013
Privatizing Saskatchewan's Crowns: A Tale of Two Telecoms	2013
The New Saskatchewan: Oklahoma North?	2012
The Opacity of Tory Transparency	2012
Raising Saskatchewan's Minimum Wage	2012
Can Wildrose Remove its Thorns?	2012
What a Wildrose Victory May Mean for Saskatchewan	2012
Brad Wall's Wonderful World of Laissez-Faire	2012
Saskatchewan's Rising Cost-of-Living	2012
Mosaic Profit Argues for Higher Royalties	2012
Resource Royalties: A Cure for Dutch Disease	2012
Enduring Austerity to Ensure Prosperity: The Saskatchewan Advantage!	2012
Brad Wall's Crime Problem	2012
The Ethics of the Ethical Oil Cabal	2012
The Conservative Party's Fair Weather Democrats	2012
The Strange Case of Saskatchewan's Electoral Boundaries	2012
Faux News Comes North?	2011
The Coming Austerity	2011

## PROVINCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Our ability to impact public policy relies to a great deal on our potential to influence public opinion through the traditional news media. The Saskatchewan Office has had tremendous success influencing public debate through the provincial media with substantial coverage in provincial dailies, radio, television and local community and alternative papers. We also regularly produce commentary that has been featured in the opinion sections of both the Regina Leader-Post and the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.



### 2011 Saskatchewan Media Type Quantity Breakdown



In 2011 CCPA Saskatchewan produced over 100 media items that reached a potential audience of 3,024,626 persons.



“Though I have been a union member for my entire working life, unions themselves had always remained on the periphery of [my activism]. Next Up has provided me with many opportunities to learn about and become involved in union issues, inspiring me to become more involved and active in my own union.”

Next Up Graduate  
and SUN Member,  
Karen Rooney

## NEXT UP SASKATCHEWAN

One of the most dynamic and potentially game-changing programs that the Saskatchewan Office sponsors is the Next Up Youth Leadership Program. Begun in Vancouver in 2008 the program has spread like wildfire to Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon and most recently, Ottawa. The program aims to nurture critical thought about social and environmental issues and to build capacity in areas such as communication, facilitation, conflict transformation, project development and building unity. It also offers opportunities for participants to network with community members and potential mentors, and to share projects they are already working on and seek input from the group about challenges they face in their organizing work. In the brief period that Next Up has operated in Saskatoon, Next Up graduates have run for Saskatoon city council, been key players in the implementation of curb-side recycling in the city, become active leaders in local unions and have become an integral part of progressive campaigns within the province.



Mark Bigland-Pritchard (right) presents to the Next Up group on peak oil and energy transition.  
Photo credit: Christina Charteris

## Why do we need youth leadership training?

While the conservative movement in Canada has long offered a variety of education and training opportunities for its young leaders, progressive movements have been much less proactive in engaging youth. For years, through its seminar and internship programs, the Fraser Institute has been identifying and training young conservative leaders. Similarly, the Manning Schools, initiated by Reform Party of Canada founder Preston Manning, aim to prepare Canada's future leaders for working in politics. There are, in the words of Next Up Saskatchewan graduate and engineer Chris Richards, "direct connections between their movement's achievements and the people who are graduates of their leadership training programs," with many of them becoming influential leaders in Canadian media, academia and politics. Ezra Levant, tar-sands defender and co-founder of the right-wing newspaper Western Standard, and Danielle Smith, the leader of Alberta's Wild Rose Alliance, are two notable alumni of the Fraser Institute.

These types of comprehensive education opportunities, which welcome youth into the movement and provide them with theory, mentorship, networking opportunities and skills development, are remarkably lacking in the world of social justice work. Next Up is really the first of its kind in Canada and everyone involved is very excited about where the program will head in the following years, and to see what Next Up Saskatchewan participants will bring to the table once they're finished.

"I can't imagine a more fulfilling job than having the opportunity to work with and learn from the participants and alumni of Next Up," reflects Next Up Saskatchewan's coordinator Tracey Mitchell. "Our grads are doing thoughtful, creative and engaging work in the many organizations and projects in which they are involved. Nothing gives me more hope for our collective future than the young people I see leaving this program with increased skills, knowledge and networks to help them work more effectively for social change."



**"Several more experienced activists and community leaders have told us that the participants in Next Up are 'a breath of fresh air,' and that they feel excited about being able to pass the torch to or share leadership with these young leaders."**

**Tracey Mitchell,  
Next Up Coordinator**

*Photo above: Next Up graduates Stephanie Shyluk (left) and Christina Charteris (right).  
Photo credit: Christina Charteris*



## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT US!

Organizational members are a key foundation of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. Through these memberships, trade unions, associations and other organizations play a critical role in building our progressive research institute so that we can effectively challenge the dominant neoliberal consensus that pervades current political debate.

Organizational memberships provide an invaluable source of revenue that allows CCPA-Saskatchewan to hire staff, purchase office supplies and carry out research projects. In return, organizational members receive independent, progressive research that they can use in their newsletters, campaigns, education and lobbying efforts.

Additionally, members can request specific research be undertaken on issues affecting their organizations. With a sustaining or sponsoring membership, provincial unions can play a more active role with a membership on the CCPA-Saskatchewan board of directors.

How much does an organizational membership cost? CCPA-Saskatchewan offers several options to fit any organization's budget.

Trade union locals and small organizations have three membership categories: Sponsoring – \$1,000; Sustaining – \$500; and Supporting – \$100. Members receive the CCPA Monitor magazine, all Saskatchewan publications and (for sponsoring and sustaining members) all national publications and books.

Provincial unions and large membership organizations have three membership categories: Sponsoring – \$7,500; Sustaining – \$5,000; and Supporting – \$2,000.

These members receive all provincial and national publications, plus they have an opportunity to have a representative sit on the CCPA-Saskatchewan board.

A CCPA-Saskatchewan membership is money well-spent. But don't take our word for it. Ask any of our organizational members:

- Communication, Energy and Paperworkers
- CUPE Saskatchewan
- Grain Services Union
- Regina and District Labour Council
- Saskatchewan Union of Nurses
- Saskatchewan Federation of Labour
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union

**"The CCPA is an organization for which I have had a tremendous admiration and a deep personal regard for years. The quality of its research is truly remarkable ... I've used it often in my own work and speeches."**

**Stephen Lewis**

**"The CCPA's publications are valuable tools. We should all do everything we can to support the CCPA."**

**Naomi Klein**

# CANADIAN CENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES – SASKATCHEWAN

## ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REPLY MEMO

# JOIN US NOW!

Become part of the leading progressive research institute in Canada.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- ✓ One free copy of every new publication the Centre puts out over the year — the monthly CCPA Monitor and up to 12 original reports (including full length books) on vital policy issues.
- ✓ Flexible policy on multiple copies for other staff members.

### Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Province, Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Please Choose Your Level of Support

Sustaining Organization (\$5,000 – \$12,000) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing Organization (\$1,000 – \$4,500) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Small Organization (\$200 – \$999) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other (\$99 – \$199) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Make Cheques Payable to: CCPA – Saskatchewan

**Send to:** Suite G – 2835 13th Avenue  
Regina, SK S4T 1N6

The CCPA is an independent, non-profit think tank, dedicated to producing and promoting alternative, well-researched perspectives on issues of economic and social justice.

**Your membership is critical to our success — thank you!**







**CCPA**

CANADIAN CENTRE  
for POLICY ALTERNATIVES

CENTRE CANADIEN  
de POLITIQUES ALTERNATIVES

Saskatchewan Office  
Suite G – 2835 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Regina, SK S4T 1N6

[www.policyalternatives.ca](http://www.policyalternatives.ca)