



## Saskatchewan Politics - Week in Review Week ending May 30, 2026

### THE BIGGER STORY

One of the themes that kept appearing throughout this week's update was the growing gap between how issues are being viewed in Ottawa and how they are being viewed across Western Canada.

Whether it was the Alberta separation debate, pipeline discussions, the resignation of Steven Guilbeault, the CBC controversy involving retired RCMP members, or the ongoing frustrations surrounding energy policy, the same pattern appeared repeatedly. Many of the issues dominating conversations in Saskatchewan and Alberta are being viewed very differently by political leaders, media organizations, and commentators elsewhere in the country. That does not automatically mean one side is right and the other is wrong. But it does suggest that the political, economic, and cultural divide between Western Canada and Ottawa remains very real, and in many ways appears to be widening rather than shrinking.

At the same time, something else is happening that may ultimately prove more important. Western provinces increasingly appear to be taking matters into their own hands. The Western Premiers Conference focused heavily on trade, infrastructure, labour mobility, critical minerals, energy development, and economic growth. Saskatchewan continues posting strong economic numbers. Alberta continues pushing for new market access and new infrastructure projects. Provinces are increasingly working together on issues that directly affect their economies rather than waiting for Ottawa to provide solutions.

As we discussed in last week's update, more business leaders are also starting to speak out publicly on issues that directly affect their industries. That is significant because traditionally, those conversations were often left to industry associations. Increasingly, companies themselves appear willing to step into the debate.

The question going forward is whether this growing Western cooperation becomes a temporary response to current frustrations, or the beginning of a more permanent shift in how Canada operates. Either way, one thing seems increasingly clear: Western Canada is becoming less interested in waiting for permission and more interested in shaping its own economic future.