



## Saskatchewan Politics - Week in Review Week ending March 14, 2026

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This week's political conversation in Saskatchewan revolved around energy, taxation, and federal-provincial tensions. Rising global oil prices renewed the debate around Canada's lack of pipeline infrastructure, with Premier Scott Moe calling it a "travesty" that Canadian oil still struggles to reach markets efficiently. Higher crude prices are generally positive for Saskatchewan's oil sector and provincial revenues, but without sufficient pipelines, Canadian oil often sells at a discount, and parts of Canada still import foreign crude. The debate highlights a long-standing contradiction in Canadian energy policy...a country rich in oil resources that still struggles to fully move and utilize its own supply.

Closer to home, municipal and rural issues dominated much of the week's discussion. The province announced record municipal revenue sharing funding, but despite that, cities continue to push for new taxation powers beyond property taxes. Critics argue that many cities do not have a revenue problem... they have a spending problem... warning that continually raising taxes while services decline risks driving residents and businesses elsewhere. Similar themes also surfaced at the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) convention in Regina, where rural leaders raised concerns about power rates, infrastructure, policing, wildlife damage, and municipal finances. The event also gave both Premier Moe and Opposition Leader Carla Beck an opportunity to speak directly to rural Saskatchewan about their priorities.

Meanwhile, tensions between Saskatchewan and Ottawa continued to rise on firearms policy. The provincial government announced new measures aimed at blocking the federal gun buyback program, with Moe stating clearly that Saskatchewan will not assist in confiscating firearms from lawful owners. The issue resonates strongly in rural Saskatchewan, where firearms are tied to hunting, farming, and rural safety rather than urban crime debates. At the same time, political maneuvering in Ottawa continues as more MPs cross the floor to join Prime Minister Mark Carney's Liberals, slowly strengthening the government's position in Parliament without an election. Taken together, the week's developments highlight a broader pattern: Saskatchewan asserting its priorities more aggressively as federal policies increasingly collide with prairie realities.