

# Report for Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board

Q3 2026

October 30, 2026

# 1.0 2026 Saskatchewan Strategic and Operational Plan

**Energy Safety Canada (ESC) is pleased to present this Q3 report, highlighting progress on the 2026 Saskatchewan (SK) Strategic and Operational Plan and efforts to advance safety performance within Canada's energy industry.**

## 1.1 Q3 2026 Highlights

- The ESC SK Advisory Committee held its Q3 meeting, providing corporate and regional updates along with key statistics and data. The committee approved the 2027 SK Strategic and Operational Plan and accepted the 2027 budget request. The budget request received approval from ESC's Board of Directors, and the Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (SK WCB) was informed of this decision.
- The SA&C department has one remaining *Auditing Differently* pilot audit planned for October or early November. ESC completed a pilot audit with Independent Well Servicing (Estevan), providing a valuable opportunity to test the proposed program in a contractor environment involving critical oil and gas work activities. Feedback from pilot participants continues to inform program refinement. ESC also partnered with SK WCB on the SIF Leading Metrics Pilot, providing training to Cameco's Cigar Lake operation to support pilot implementation. In collaboration with SK WCB, ESC continues to offer free online training for organizations participating in the leading metrics pilot, as well as free in-person training for interested member companies.
- ESC SK conducted employer support meetings throughout Q3 2026. Engagements with 47 of 55 employers identified in Q1 as being in a surcharge position have been completed. Company-specific Employer Health and Safety Profile Reports and ESC resources were provided to support safety improvements.

## 1.2 Industry Impact & Development Initiatives

**ESC met all planned Q3 objectives and activity targets.**

### 1.2.1 Employer Engagement

- SK WCB data has been analyzed to identify 12 additional employers with accelerating WCB claims.

- Conducted four site visits with Saturn Oil & Gas and Whitecap Resources at service and drilling rig locations, strengthening industry relationships and gaining firsthand insight into field operations. Participated in Energy Wheel training facilitated by SK WCB to support hazard recognition and critical risk identification. The visits provided opportunities to engage directly with workers about SIF prevention, critical risks and workplace controls.

### 1.2.2 Industry Engagement

#### Lloydminster Heavy Oil Show

- Exhibited at the Lloydminster Heavy Oil Show (approx. 3,000 attendees). Approximately 200 attendees engaged directly with ESC representatives and received information on training, the Energy Wheel hazard assessment, Serious Injury and Fatality (SIF), prevention, Human Organization Performance (HOP) and Critical Work Management (Alberta Creative Sentence) resources.
    - Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe provided an update on energy projects and pipeline negotiations with the federal government.

#### ISSA Mining Conference

- Participated in the 2026 ISSA Mining Conference in Saskatoon as an exhibitor and delegate. ESC presented on the Auditing Differently pilot and the Critical Work Management creative sentence project. Value highlights include:
    - Sessions aligned with ESC priorities, including SIF prevention, Critical Work Management, energy-based safety and HOP.
    - Strengthened industry relationships, extended ESC's reach beyond the energy sector and identified opportunities for ongoing collaboration with the mining industry.
    - Engaged with a variety of delegates and booths, including University of Saskatchewan student presenter to learn more about the use of AI technology to improve the efficiency of near-miss reporting.

#### Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum

- Exhibited at the Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum, strengthening ESC's industry presence and promoting Common Safety Orientation, Auditing Differently, Leadership for Safe Workplaces and Safety Evolution Seminars.

- Presentations from CAPP, Strathcona and Steel Reef covered Saskatchewan-specific oil projects, while SaskPower outlined long-range power generation plans across natural gas, coal, nuclear, wind and solar.
- Gained insight into anticipated growth, investment, workforce needs and upcoming projects, informing ESC planning and helping identify emerging stakeholder needs.

**Community Engagement**

- Participated in the Weyburn Chamber of Commerce Parade and the Adopt-A-Planter program, raising awareness of ESC and connecting with community members.

## 1.3 WCB Premiums & Claims

- ESC's SK operational WCB 2026 levy is $0.085 per $100 of payroll, slightly higher than the 2025 levy of $0.077.
- The 2026 premium average for ESC rate codes is $1.38 per $100 payroll, slightly higher than the provincial rate of $1.22.
- Saskatchewan WCB premium rates by rate code (2024-2026):

| Saskatchewan WCB rate code | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | Difference 2025-2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| D32 (Operation of Oilwells) | $0.42 | $0.43 | $0.41 | (-) $0.02 |
| D41 (Oilwell Servicing) | $1.41 | $1.52 | $1.55 | (+) $0.03 |
| D51 (Service Rigs) | $1.64 | $1.83 | $1.85 | (+) $0.02 |
| D52 (Drilling) | $1.69 | $1.77 | $1.70 | (-) $0.07 |
| Average | $1.29 | $1.39 | $1.38 | (-) $0.01 |

- SK WCB 2026 payroll projection ($ millions):

| Saskatchewan WCB rate code | Used in 2025 rate setting | Updated 2025 projection | 2026 projection |
|---|---|---|---|
| D32 (Operation of Oilwells) | $396.23 | $408.26 | $420.51 |
| D41 (Oilwell Servicing) | $415.22 | $406.85 | $406.85 |
| D51 (Service Rigs) | $112.56 | $110.00 | $111.10 |
| D52 (Drilling) | $113.36 | $111.96 | $113.64 |

*Source: Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board*

- A year-over-year comparison of claim counts across ESC SK WCB rate codes for Q2 2025 to Q2 2026 shows an increase in time-loss claims, along with a reduction in no-time-loss.

| Claim | Q2 2025 | Q2 2026 | Difference Q2 2025 – Q2 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Time-loss | 34 | 37 | + 3 (+8.0%) |
| No-time-loss | 105 | 93 | - 12 (-11.0%) |
| Fatalities | 0 | 0 | No change |
| Total – All Categories | 139 | 130 | - 9 (-6.5%) |

# 2.0 Education and Training

Energy workers provide essential services and must receive the necessary training to work safely. ESC Authorized Training Providers (ATPs) in Saskatchewan offer both classroom and virtual training to students across the province. ESC's SK training highlights for 2026 included:

- In Q3, the top three courses in Saskatchewan were:
  - $H_2S$ Alive® (Q3: 1,433 enrolled, Q1-Q3: 4,939 enrolled)
  - Common Safety Orientation (Q3: 605 enrolled, Q1-Q3: 1,588 enrolled)
  - Fall Protection (Q3: 300 enrolled, Q1-Q3: 911 enrolled).
- Total enrolment for all ESC courses in Saskatchewan in Q3 was 3,890 (Q1-Q3: 12,193 enrolled).
- An ESC SK Program Manager has been certified as an $H_2S$ Alive® instructor and is able to provide support to regional ATPs as required.
- ESC SK held a Safety Evolution Seminar in Kindersley on October 14, 2026. The seminar focused on HOP principles, Critical Work Management, learning from work-as-done, incident investigation, and approaches to strengthening safety culture and organizational learning.

# 3.0 Funding/Budget

**Q3 operational costs were consistent with the 2026 quarterly budget allocations. Key figures included:**

- SK WCB funding for 2026: $890,000
- Q3 2026 instalment received from WCB: $222,500.
- As of the end of Q3 2026, ESC SK had 4 employees.

*Refer to Appendix A for full Q3 SK 2026 unaudited financial statement.*

# Appendix A | SK Q3 2026 Unaudited Financial Statement

| **September 30, 2026 Actuals** | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue** | **Budget** | **Actual** | **Total of Actuals + Forecasts** | **Variance: Budget - Forecast** | **Variance Description (+/- 10% or $7,500)** |
| SK WCB funding | $890,000 | $667,500 | $890,000 | $0 | |
| Other revenue | $0 | $0 | $0 | | |
| **Total revenue** | **$890,000** | **$667,500** | **$890,000** | | |
| **Expenses** | **Budget** | **Actual** | **Total of Actuals + Forecasts** | **Variance: Budget - Forecast** | **Variance Description (+/- 10% or $7,500)** |
| Salaries - Head Office support | $93,000 | $68,491 | $89,879 | $3,121 | N/A |
| Salaries – Direct | $480,000 | $365,550 | $478,443 | $1,557 | N/A |
| Benefits - Head Office support | $20,000 | $14,363 | $18,332 | $1,668 | N/A |
| Benefits – Direct | $105,000 | $81,096 | $101,374 | $3,627 | N/A |
| Consultants & contractors | $500 | $818 | $818 | ($318) | Guest Speaker for Info Meeting |
| Accounting & legal fees | $500 | $0 | $0 | $500 | No Fees Required YTD |
| Advertising | $7,000 | $12,695 | $12,695 | ($5,695) | Safety Stand Down & SCGA Breakfast Sponsor, Career Fair Registrations |
| Building & services | $10,000 | $7,471 | $9,721 | $279 | N/A |
| Communications | $1,000 | $189 | $789 | $211 | Numbers Reflect YTD Spend |
| Conferences & conventions | $6,000 | $6,145 | $6,145 | ($145) | N/A |
| External events & meetings | $1,000 | $1000 | $1,650 | ($650) | Guest Speakers, Meals, Room Rentals |
| Furniture & equipment | $3,000 | $15,951 | $23,451 | ($20,451) | Boardroom Updates |
| Office supplies | $4,000 | $2,919 | $5,204 | ($1,204) | Kitchen Appliances, e.g., Water Cooler, Microwave |
| Rent – Office | $80,000 | $58,192 | $77,590 | $2,410 | N/A |
| Technology | $55,000 | $8,551 | $50,851 | $4,149 | N/A |
| Training - Staff | $2,000 | $1,084 | $1,084 | $916 | Professional Memberships, Conference Delegate Fees |
| Travel | $21,700 | $20,570 | $35,535 | ($13,835) | Additional Conferences and Employer Visits |
| Miscellaneous | $300 | $205 | $5,026 | ($4,726) | Misallocation (will be corrected by time of next report) |
| **Total expenses** | **$890,000** | **$665,290** | **$918,586** | **($28,586)** | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Excess (deficiency) revenues over expenses | $0 | $2,210 | ($28,586) | $28,586 | |
| Excess Funding From Prior Year | $64,709 | | $64,709 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Expenditures Over SK WCB Funding | $64,709 | | $31,123 | | |

# Appendix B | ESC SK Advisory Committee Members

| Trade Association – Company | Voting Member |
|---|---|
| Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC) | Rod Garland |
| Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL) – A member of Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) | Shane Adam |
| Independent Well Servicing Ltd. – A member of Canadian Association of Energy Contractors (CAOEC) | Brian Crossman |
| Reliance Oilfield Services – A member of Enserva | Ben Heath (Vice chair) |
| Saturn Oil and Gas Inc. – A member of Canadian Association of Energy Contractors (CAOEC) | Wade Ashworth (Chair) |
| SaskEnergy/TransGas | Sheena Nabozniak |
| Whitecap Resources Inc. – A member of Explorers and Producers Association of Canada (EPAC) | Craig Molde |
| **Trade Association or Organization** | **Observing Member** |
| CAOEC | Lindsay Sinclair |
| Enserva | Katy Carley |
| Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety (LRWS) | Ila Klassen |
| Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (SK WCB) | Peter Koutsoulis |
| Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board (SK WCB) | Daran Good |
| SaskEnergy/TransGas | Pam Haubrich |
| **Energy Safety Canada** | **Member** |
| Alberta | Murray Evenson |
| Saskatchewan | Lorinda Jacobson |
| Saskatchewan | Arnold Betzema |
| Saskatchewan | Julianne Weaver |
| Saskatchewan | Cheryl Tollefson |

# ESC Corporate Profile

## ENERGY INDUSTRY'S SAFETY ALLY

For over 75 years, Energy Safety Canada has been the national safety association for Canada's energy industry. Created by industry, for industry, we are dedicated to keeping energy workers safe and driving safety performance.

## What We Do:

- Deliver industry-recognized training to meet industry needs.
- Collaborate with industry to drive continuous safety improvements.
- Provide safety and labour market data, insights and tools.
- Serve as the industry certifying partner for the Certificate of Recognition program.

## Proudly Serving Our Industry

We are proud to work on behalf of Canada's energy industry associations.

CAOEC
CAPP
ENSERVA
EPAC
Oil Sands Alliance