FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE AGRI-WATER MANAGEMENT: ADAPTING TO A VARIABLE AND CHANGING CLIMATE

www.icid2018.org

CWRA Twitter: @CWRA_Flows | #ICID2018
ICID, established in 1950, is a leading scientific, technical and not-for-profit Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). Through its network of professionals spread across 80 countries, ICID has facilitated sharing of experiences and transfer of water management technology for more than six decades. ICID promotes policies and programs to enhance sustainable development of irrigated agriculture through a comprehensive water management framework.

ICID is a knowledge sharing platform dedicated to issues related to the entire spectrum of agriculture water management practices ranging from rain-fed agriculture to supplemental irrigation, land drainage, deficit irrigation to full irrigation. In addition, drainage of agricultural lands forms the core theme of our activities. Floods and drought – the two extremes of increasingly variable climate as a result of potential climate change – also form the focus of activities.

**Mission**

ICID’s Vision will be achieved by generating new knowledge, compiling and collating information, sharing experiences and good practices and disseminating the new knowledge to the relevant stakeholders. Prudent agriculture water management is not confined to the efficient use of water in agriculture, but is concerned with making optimal use of water diverted for agriculture for the overall benefit of rural communities and preserving the quality of return flows to receiving water bodies.

**Vision**

ICID believes that through prudent agriculture water management, agriculture production can be made more resilient resulting in reducing the incidence of hunger, ensuring food security, improving rural livelihoods and maintaining ecosystem services. Irrigation and drainage infrastructures, while ensuring availability of water for agriculture, also serve multiple roles such as ensuring the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation thereby improving the health and productivity of rural populations. At the same time, irrigation infrastructures also serve as means of communication and give farmers easier access to markets for inputs and selling agriculture produce.
Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA)

CWRA is a national association of individuals and organizations from the public, private and academic sectors that are committed to raising awareness of the value of water and to promoting responsible and effective water resource management in Canada. CWRA’s membership consists of water users and water resource professionals including managers, administrators, scientists, academics, students and young professionals.

CWRA has branch organizations in most Canadian provinces. Members can also participate in the affiliates dealing with education, hydrology or water and agriculture.

CWRA organizes conferences, symposiums, workshops and webinars dealing with a wide range of water issues. It publishes numerous papers and reports as well as the Canadian Water Resources Journal and Water News and promotes effective water management through other events and activities.

www.cwra.org

Canadian National Committee for Irrigation and Drainage (CANCID)

CANCID is a permanent committee of the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) and is Canada’s active member of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID). CANCID activities aim to stimulate and promote research, development and application of technology among those individuals and organizations in Canada who are interested in irrigation, drainage and flood management in rural and agricultural areas.

In addition, CANCID also aims to:

- Carry out activities relating to irrigation and drainage within Canada, disseminate news and information from CANCID and ICID throughout Canada, and share technical information related to agriculture and water.

- Represent Canada in the various special projects undertaken by ICID and to promote Canadian participation in the activities of ICID.

- Liaise with other National Committees of ICID and other associated organizations having areas of related interests.

- Participate in the activities of CWRA.

www.cwra.org/en/branches/affiliates/cancid
A Message from Dr. Saeed Nairizi, President of ICID

On behalf of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), I am pleased to invite you to the International Conference on “Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate” together with the 69th International Executive Council Meeting to be held from 12-17 August 2018 at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Province in Canada.

More than 15 years after the 18th Congress and the 53rd International Executive Council Meeting in 2002 at Montreal (Canada), the ICID family will meet again in the heart of the Canadian Prairies, which presents interesting developments in the field of agriculture, one of Saskatchewan’s primary economic activities. Surrounded by close to 25 million hectares of farm land in the Province of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon is home to world class agriculture research and educational institutions that support sustainable agriculture through innovations. Managing water effectively is key to sustainable agriculture in Saskatchewan for ensuring food and water security and for creating greater resiliency to climate variability.

Saskatoon, relatively young city - a city of arts, culture, and food, provides an excellent venue for our annual meeting. You have only to scratch the surface to immerse yourself in centuries of deep cultural heritage from First Nations’ traditions to the early days of settlement. Weaving through the city, witness to these important and historical changes, is the beautiful South Saskatchewan River Valley.

We all know the very devoted and skilled contributions of our Canadian friends to the activities of our Commission. Therefore, we have full confidence that Canadian National Committee of ICID (CANCID) will offer us a very rich and interesting stay in the prairies.

The CANCID will be devising very interesting programmes for the accompanying persons as well as study tours for the participants including places of historic importance.

I extend a cordial invitation to all the prospective delegates for the International Conference and the 69th International Executive Council Meeting at Saskatoon in Canada.

I am looking forward to meeting you there.

Dr. Saeed Nairizi
President
International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
A Message from the Premier of Saskatchewan

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I am pleased to welcome you to the 69th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting and Regional Conference of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID).

With its theme of “Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate”, this annual executive council meeting and technical conference represents a unique platform for networking and exchanging information on the management of water for sustainable agriculture. Saskatchewan is honoured to provide a forum for delegates to share management expertise, and recognizes the important work ICID undertakes in its 106 member countries.

Canada, a member of ICID since 1956, values the contributions made by agriculture to our domestic economy and understands the importance of the agri-food sector to deliver safe, high-quality food to a growing world population. With more than 40 per cent of Canada’s arable land and seven per cent of Canada’s fresh water, Saskatchewan embraces innovative irrigation and drainage techniques. We know that effective water management is essential to ensure food security.

Welcome to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan’s City of Bridges, and home to world-class agricultural education and research institutions. Best wishes for a successful conference.

Brad Wall
Premier

Regina, Saskatchewan
On behalf of the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) and the Canadian Committee for Irrigation and Drainage (CANCID), we would like to extend an invitation to participate in the 69th International Executive Council Meeting (IEC69) and Regional Conference hosted in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, August 12 – 17, 2018.

Canada has a reputation for being warm and cordial hosts for international events as well as being known for our leading edge irrigation and water management technologies. The conference is being hosted in the heart of the Canadian Prairies! With more than 25 million hectares of farm land, this region of Canada has adopted many leading edge technologies to manage and distribute its limited water resources. Through your participation at IEC69, we hope to showcase some of Canada’s strategies related to effective water management with the understanding of climate change and impacts on water security, the environment, and social values of all Canadians.

The theme of the 69th annual ICID conference, “Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management: Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate,” will focus on these issues and more. It is our intention to give participants the opportunity to share ideas and experiences in a setting congruent to learning and issue solving.

The Conference will not be complete without having an opportunity to enjoy the multiple tourist attraction. Saskatoon is a relatively young city: a city of arts, culture, food and drink. But you have only to scratch the surface to immerse yourself in centuries of deep cultural heritage from First Nations’ traditions to the early days of settlement. We trust the time you spend with us in Saskatoon will be rewarding and that you will build many long lasting friendships.

CWRA and CANCID are honoured to host the 69th Annual ICID Executive Council Meeting and Regional Conference and we look forward to your participation and to meeting each and every one of you in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

We look forward to seeing you in 2018!

Dave Murray
National President
CWRA

Roger Hohm
President
CANCID
Welcome to Saskatoon, Treaty Six Territory and homeland of the Métis people. I am very pleased to welcome you to the 69th Annual International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage – International Executive Council Meeting and Regional Conference.

It is my hope the sessions and networking opportunities will prove to be beneficial and educational for everyone in attendance. Congratulations to the organizers for providing this valuable opportunity for international collaboration in sustainable irrigation.

Given the important role that agriculture plays in the life and economy of our city - and the University of Saskatchewan’s expertise in both water and food security - we are especially excited to host this event.

Once again, welcome and enjoy your stay.

Charlie Clark
Mayor
A BRIEF OVERVIEW: CANADA, PRAIRIES, SASKATCHEWAN AND SASKATOON

Canada occupies most of the northern half of North America, with coastlines along the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic Oceans. It covers 9.98 million square kilometers (2nd largest country in the world) with 675,867 square kilometers of that used in agriculture. While a large country, the population is relatively low at just over 35 million people. Most live in large to medium sized cities; about one third of all Canadians can be found in just three cities: Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.

Several indigenous peoples, with rich cultures and diverse languages, inhabited what came to be known as Canada for thousands of years before being ‘discovered’ by Western Europeans. The first ‘discoverers’ were Norsemen from Scandinavia around 1000 AD who tried but failed to establish settlements on the east coast. It would be nearly 500 years more before another European explorer would step foot on Canada’s shore. Yet another 360 would pass before Canada the country was born in 1867.

Settlement

Before settlement could get started, several numbered treaties were negotiated transferring land title from the First Nations to the Government of Canada in exchange for money, goods, reserve land and several enduring rights. The first seven treaties, signed between 1871 and 1877, led the way for agriculture settlement on the Prairies, construction of a railroad linking the east and west coasts, and solidifying Canada’s claim on land north of the Canada-USA border.

Immigration to the Prairies started as early the 1860s but didn’t get in full swing until 1896. Prairie ‘homesteaders’ arrived mostly from Europe, either directly to Canada or through the USA. For many, their reasons for immigrating were as it is today: economic opportunities, overcrowding at home, climate, politics and religious freedom. Population growth through immigration was rapid: the area that was to become Saskatchewan (not a province until 1905), started with a population of 91,000 in 1901 which grew to 492,000 in ten years. In this same period, Saskatoon (your host city) grew from 311 to 12,004 residents. Today, Saskatoon is Saskatchewan’s largest city and is home to more than 260,000 people (> one fifth of Saskatchewan’s population).

Fun Fact

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world’s lakes combined.
Saskatchewan Agriculture

The vast prairie grasslands were ideally suited to agriculture, initially used for growing cereals and for ranching. Today, cereal production and ranching are still important agriculture sectors in Saskatchewan. However, oilseeds and pulses are now also significant contributors to the farm economy.

There are nearly 37,000 farms on 65 million hectares with approximately 60% of the farms in grain and oilseed production under dryland production. About 20% raise livestock. A significant number of farms produce pulses and forages. 100,000 ha is under irrigation and is used to produce a range of pulse, forage, fruit, vegetable and other horticulture crops. Other agriculture sectors include poultry (egg and meat), specialty livestock, mustard and hay. With the development of lower heat unit requiring cultivars, a few producers are investigating corn and soybean production.

The farm economy in Saskatchewan is significant, generating over $1.7 billion net on-farm income. The value of Saskatchewan agriculture and food exports is approximately $14 billion. The top five export crops include canola seed ($2.5 billion), wheat (excluding durum) ($2.2 billion), durum wheat ($1.9 billion), lentils ($1.4 billion) and dry peas ($1.2 billion).

Agriculture Research in Saskatoon

Saskatoon is not just surrounded by farmland – it is also a centre of agriculture innovation and discovery. The University of Saskatchewan houses the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, Crop Development Centre, Global Institute for Food Security, Global Institute for Water Security, National Resources Canada, POS Biosciences, Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization-International Vaccine Centre (VIDO-InterVac) and Agriculture and Agri-Food’s Science and Technology Branch. Also found on Campus is the Canadian Light Source, a world class synchrotron with a vision to deliver “innovative solutions as a leading centre for research excellence in health, agriculture, environment, and advanced materials.”

Just north of the university campus is Innovation Place, a research park focused on assisting new technologies and promoting agriculture research. Both small local and large international agriculture research companies have offices, labs and greenhouse space; in addition, several key commodity associations like SaskCanola are located there. And immediately outside the city, large multinational agriculture companies like Bayer CropScience, Pioneer Hi-Bred and Monsanto have crop breeding and research farms.

The Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre is located just south of Saskatoon, in Outlook, Saskatchewan. It is a federal/provincial/industry/university partnership dedicated to sustainable irrigated production practice.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW: CANADA, PRAIRIES, SASKATCHEWAN AND SASKATOON

At 2.7 million cattle, there are more than twice as many cattle as there are people in Saskatchewan.
A BRIEF OVERVIEW: CANADA, PRAIRIES, SASKATCHEWAN AND SASKATOON

Irrigation in Canada

Canada is extraordinarily rich in water resources. Approximately 20% of the global surface fresh water supply is in Canada, equating to more water per capita than in any other large country.

Of Canada’s 33.5 million hectares of arable land, about 1.0 million hectares are irrigated. The arid and semi-arid regions of Canada’s western provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan), which receive less than 350 mm of annual precipitation, account for 85% of Canada’s irrigated area. The majority of water is used to irrigate field crops (cereals, oilseeds, pulses, specialty, potatoes) and forages with a small area used for vegetable, fruit, sod, spice and other minor crop production.

Sprinklers are the most used irrigation system, followed by micro irrigation and surface irrigation. In Alberta, for example, 73% of the irrigated area uses low pressure centre pivot systems with the remainder accounted for by wheel move sprinklers (11%), high pressure centre pivots (8%), surface irrigation (8%) and micro and drip systems (<1%).

In British Columbia, on-farm and off-farm surface water supplies are used equally for irrigation, along with some groundwater supply. In Saskatchewan and Alberta, the majority of the water supply is surface water supplied. In Manitoba, the presence of large, high yield aquifers allows about 60% of the irrigated area to use groundwater, with the balance drawn from on-farm surface water sources. In Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, irrigation water sources are primarily on-farm surface water with some groundwater use.

Drainage in Canada

About 8 million hectares of land in Canada is drained with most of it surface drained. In Ontario and Quebec (annual precipitation > 900 mm) more than 2.5 million hectares are subsurface drained. These subsurface drained soils typically have low hydraulic conductivity, have low topographic relief, and receive high amounts of precipitation in the fall and during spring snowmelt when crops are not growing. Subsurface drainage consists mainly of corrugated plastic pipes systems installed to an average depth of 1.2 metres.

SASKATCHEWAN FACTS:

• Located in Western Canada
• Total Area: 651,035 km²
• Farmland Area: 249,691 km² (24,968,140 hectares)
• Total Population: 1,142,570 (est. 2016)
• Saskatoon Population: 265,300 (est. 2016)
• Climate: semi-arid/humid continental
• Growing Degree Days above 5°C (May – October): 1318 – 1717 [Saskatoon: 1560]
• Annual Precipitation (agricultural extent): 325-449mm [Saskatoon: 340mm]
• Total Sunshine Hours per Year (Saskatoon): 2,267.8
• Temperature:
  - January average high/low (Saskatoon): -8.8/-18.9°C
  - August average high/low (Saskatoon): 25.2/11.1°C
  - Record Low (Saskatoon): -50.0°C (1893)
  - Record High (Saskatoon): 41.5°C (1988)
CONFERENCE THEME AND SUB-THEMES

CONFERENCE THEME

Innovative and Sustainable Agri-Water Management:
Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate

Sub-theme I: Competing Water Demands

- Socioeconomic value of irrigation
- Irrigation and water resources management in transboundary basins
- Water-Food-Energy nexus
- Mechanisms and strategies for managing competing water demands

Sub-theme II: Resilient Agriculture – Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change

- Climate change and its impact on agriculture, irrigation and drainage
- Irrigation, drainage and flood control strategies for resilient economic development
- Climate smart agriculture and innovative technologies for enhancing water use efficiency

Sub-theme III: Irrigation and Drainage in Perspective

- Irrigation and water footprint
- Water reuse and water quality management
- Alternative strategies for irrigation infrastructure development
- Drainage and flood control strategies for environmental benefits
Venue

The conference will be held at the Teachers Credit Union Place (TCU Place) which is Saskatoon’s Arts and Convention Centre.

Located in beautiful downtown Saskatoon, TCU Place offers a creative and inspirational environment that can only be found in a world-class convention centre. As the only convention centre with a soft seat theatre, TCU Place offers a unique experience for guests and clients. The Convention Centre at TCU Place is known for its excellent and spacious rooms for creating many memories for clients and guests. This multi-purpose facility hosts many events such as conventions, weddings, tradeshows, banquets, meetings and more.

Dates

12-17 August 2018

Host Organizations

CWRA, CANCID

Language

The language of the conference will be in English.

Accommodations

We are currently negotiating conference rates with a number of hotels within walking distance of the conference centre. For a list of accommodations in Saskatoon (searchable by accommodation type, location and keyword) visit “Best Hotels in Saskatoon” on the Tourism Saskatoon website (www.tourismsaskatoon.com).

Disclaimers

The Organizing Committee shall not be liable for personal accidents or losses or damage to personal property of registered participants of the conference. Participants should make their own arrangements for personal insurance.

Whilst every attempt will be made that all features of the conference mentioned in this announcement will take place as scheduled, the Organizing Committee reserves the right to make last minute changes as the need arises.
Registration Details

You must register to attend this event. Registration details will be available soon on the conference website (www.icid2018.org).

Registration Rates

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<tr>
<td><strong>IEC + International Conference</strong></td>
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<td>Young Professionals</td>
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<td><strong>International Conference Only</strong></td>
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Note, registration fees will be charged in Canadian dollars and will be subject to 5% taxes. The above fees are considered “Early Bird fees” and will increase after the deadline indicated on the registration form.

Supporter and Exhibitor Opportunities

The annual ICID meeting and conference typically draws in over 600 international delegates.

The event provides a unique opportunity for participants to network and share their knowledge and expertise related to sustainable agriculture. This includes water management, irrigation, drainage, livestock and crop production – all important aspects that support stable agriculture production with the goal of improving water and food security. The delegates represent a range of government and non-government organizations including policy makers, program managers, scientists, agri-business representatives and not-for-profit development organizations.

To make events like this a success, we rely on the generous support of organizations and industry. The ICID meeting and conference is a great opportunity for supporters and exhibitors to showcase and promote their organization, products, technologies, and services, and to engage with delegates from around the world. Supporters can choose from a variety of sponsorship levels including sponsoring special events and food & beverage services. Recognition for support will be publicized in conference promotional material, during the event, through our social media campaign and on the conference (www.icid2018.org) and the Canadian Water Resources Association (www.cwra.org) websites.

If interested in becoming a conference supporter or booking an exhibitor space, please contact support@icid2018.org for details and to request a sponsorship package.

We look forward to your organization or agri-business support and participation in this exciting international event.
CONFERENCE OVERVIEW AND INFORMATION

TOURS

Pre-Conference Tour

A 1-day tour will be organized prior to the start of the Conference to allow participants the opportunity to experience the natural beauty of the Saskatchewan landscape, and interact with the friendly people that farm and live in the rural communities.

Technical Tours

A number of technical tours will be organized for Thursday, August 16, to allow participants to experience Saskatchewan’s diverse irrigation and rainfed agriculture development, and to meet the people that drive the agriculture industry.

Accompanying Person Tours

Several interesting cultural tours and activities will be organized throughout the conference that will highlight the rich diversity of life in and around the city of Saskatoon.

Post-Conference Tour

A 3-day guided tour will take place immediately after the conference to get a more extensive overview of irrigation development in Saskatchewan and Alberta. This tour will allow participants to interact with innovative irrigation producers, and visit multi-purpose water storage reservoirs and irrigation distribution systems. The tour will end up in beautiful Banff National Park, which is located in Alberta’s Rocky Mountains.

On Your Own Tours

There is plenty of action, excitement and diverse activities happening all over Saskatoon. We encourage you to hike or cycle along the 80 km of urban trails along the beautiful Meewasin Valley and South Saskatchewan River, discovering River Landing, the revitalized neighbourhood of Riversdale and our downtown core. The active person can take in an abundance of adventures like canoeing along the river or golfing at one of several courses in and around the city. Or consider driving out to one of the nearby provincial parks to get a chance to see the countryside and take in some nature. And if the gambling spirit strikes you, there’s the Dakota Dunes Casino, within a 20-minute drive south the city with regular shuttle runs from downtown. Our city is known as the arts capital of Saskatchewan, and we are proud to have Canada’s largest Modern Art Museum, the Remai Modern, which houses the world’s largest collection of Picasso linocuts.

Take a stroll around the University of Saskatchewan campus; specifically, “the Bowl” which gives you a 360° view of the University’s architecture including excellent examples of Collegiate Gothic style buildings. Or take a stroll along the viewing gallery of the new Rayner Dairy Research and Teaching Facility to see innovative and modern dairy cow handling and feeding systems. Also on campus, is the international-calibre synchrotron, the Canadian Light Source, where scientists around the world explore issues in pharmaceuticals, aerospace, energy, mining, environment and agriculture (free tours, arranged in advanced for small groups through their website, www.lightsource.ca).

These are just a few suggestions. We invite you to explore our vibrant city, experience our world-class hospitality, and see for yourself that there are endless places to discover in Saskatoon. See also General Information – Culture & Entertainment, p. 19.
VISITOR INFORMATION

PASSPORT/VISA

Canadians (including dual and Canadian permanent residents) and USA citizens need to only carry a valid passport to travel to and within Canada. However, depending on your country or territory, you may need to obtain a visa OR an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) in addition to holding a valid passport. For more information regarding entry requirements to Canada, visit: www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/.

LETTER OF INVITATION

Letter of Invitation if Required for VISAs or Other Administrative Reasons

The Organizing Committee can provide invitation letters to those who require it for visas or other necessary processes. However, this letter aims to only assist participants for their travel to Canada and does not imply any commitment for the Organizing Committee to provide financial support. Please contact the Organizing Committee as early as possible if you require an invitation.
VISITOR INFORMATION

Customs

As a visitor, you can bring certain goods in your personal baggage into Canada for your own use. Personal baggage includes clothing, camping and sports equipment, cameras and personal computers. This also includes your mode of transportation, including vehicles, private boats and aircraft.

You must declare all goods when you arrive at the first Canadian Border Security Agency port of entry. Canada’s border security officers will check goods you are bringing in or taking out of Canada to verify what you have declared. If you declare goods when you arrive and take them back with you when you leave, you will not have to pay any duty or taxes.

Details on proper identification, what you can bring with you, making your declaration, travelling with alcohol and tobacco, restricted/prohibited goods, travelling with more than CAN$10,000, travelling with gifts, restrictions on entering Canada and other resources for visitors can be found at www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/.
Transportation (Air, Bus, Train, Car, Taxi)

Air: If flying into Saskatoon, you’ll land at the Saskatoon/John G. Diefenbaker International Airport (Airport code: YXE), on the north edge of the city, a 10 minute drive to city centre. You can arrange for car rental from one of several car rental agencies within the terminal. Just outside the terminal doors, local bus, taxi, limo, wheelchair accessible transportation (arrange in advance) or shuttle services (to a few hotels) are available.

Bus, Local: Local transit service to most of the city. There is a central transit hub located in downtown. Live maps, route planning tools, information on fares are available on the Saskatoon Transit website (www.transit.saskatoon.ca).

Bus, Long Distance: Greyhound Canada operates out of the downtown terminal and provides inter-provincial service to Manitoba and Alberta and beyond.

Car: Saskatoon is a modern city with an excellent road system. Speed limit within the city is 50 km/hr. Circle Drive, as its name suggests, circles the city, creating a streamlined commuter route as well as connecting to major highways; speed limit here is 90 km/hr. Be aware that there are speed cameras along the route.

Train, Passenger: VIA Rail Canada is a trans-Canadian passenger train service. It stops in Saskatoon three times a week from May to October on its run between Toronto and Vancouver. It offers a one-of-a-kind trip through the Prairies and over Rockies on your way to the Pacific Coast of Canada. Connect to other routes along the way to get to Northern Manitoba or all the way to the Atlantic Coast.

Taxi: There are several local taxi companies, only a phone call away.

Language

Canada’s two official languages are English and French. In addition, there are over 60 indigenous languages. In Saskatchewan, English is by far the most common language (spoken by 99.5% of residents), followed by German, Cree*, French (4.6%), Ukrainian, Tagalog, Dene* and a few others.

*Indigenous language

Currency

The Canadian dollar (sign: $; code: CAD) is the currency of Canada. The dollar is composed of 100 cents (symbol ¢).

Denominations, Coins: 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, $1 (commonly referred to as a ‘loonie’ for the bird common loon, Gavia immer) on one of the coin faces) and $2 (commonly referred to as a ‘toonie’, to rhyme with loonie). Production and circulation of the 1¢ coin (also called a penny) was discontinued in 2013. Purchases made in cash are rounded to the nearest five cents; purchases made with credit and debit cards are not rounded.

Denominations, Bills: $5, $10, $20, $50 and $100 are the most common bills in circulation.

Electric Current

In Canada, the standard voltage is 120 volts and the standard frequency is 60 Hz, the same as in the USA and Mexico. The power sockets used in Canada are type A and B.
**Telephone**

Canada’s country code is 001. The provincial (Saskatchewan) 3-digit area codes are 306 (most common) and 639 (recently introduced). When phoning locally within Saskatoon and to some nearby municipalities, dial the 3-digit provincial code followed by the person’s 7-digit number. When dialing long-distance within Canada to anyone in Canada or the USA, dial 1 + 3-digit area code + 7-digit number.

Cellular service is provided by a number of carriers over an extensive 4G network. Major centres like Saskatoon and Regina are covered by a 4G LTE network.

**Internet Access**

The city of Saskatoon has partnered with Shaw Communications (ShawGoWifi) to provide free WiFi service at TCU Place (https://www.saskatoon.ca/city-hall/send-comments-concerns-city/service-saskatoon/systems/wifi-civic-facilities). In most cases, you should also have complementary WiFi service at your hotel. Free WiFi service is also often available in local restaurants, coffee shops, malls and other local businesses.

**Time Zone**

Most of Saskatchewan is on Central Standard Time (GMT-6) year-round and does not observe daylight saving time (DST) in the summer. The only official exception is the city of Lloydminster (a city that straddles the Alberta-Saskatchewan border) which follows Mountain Standard Time and observes DST in the summer to be in sync with Alberta.

**Shopping**

Midtown Plaza, featuring over 130 retailers, restaurants and services, is literally only few steps away from the convention centre. In addition, there are several restaurants, coffee shops, banks, hair salons, clothing stores, gifts & home décor, and more within easy walking distance. A short walk across the Broadway Bridge spanning the South Saskatchewan River, discover additional specialty shopping, dining, entertainment and live theatre in the Broadway District. Further afield, there are additional malls and shopping & business districts to explore.
Welcome to beautiful Saskatoon, located on Treaty 6 Territory, where a young creative city sits on the edge of a beautiful landscape with a rich history.

We encourage you to explore the 80 km of urban trails along the beautiful Meewasin Valley and South Saskatchewan River, discovering River Landing, the revitalized neighbourhood of Riversdale and our downtown core. Take in the action and excitement of diverse activities happening all over our city year-round.

Saskatoon knows how to have fun. We host world-class live theatre events, like Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan and the Fringe Festival. We’re also well-known for our research power thanks to the world-class University of Saskatchewan and “the Brightest Light in Canada: The Canadian Light Source” which has played a key role in many scientific discoveries worldwide.

Our city is known as the arts capital of Saskatchewan, and we are proud to have Canada’s largest Modern Art Museum, the Remai Modern, which, for example, houses the world’s largest collection of Picasso linocuts. If you’re hungry, Saskatoon’s food and drink scene is thriving, and many of Canada’s best chefs are choosing to call Saskatoon home, thanks to the close connections they can build with farmers in the area, producing the highest quality food.

Explore Wanuskewin Heritage Park: a national historic site devoted to teaching visitors about the Northern Plains Indian culture. The Beaver Creek Conservation Area is an awe-inspiring ecological site dedicated to the prairie habitat or tour along the South Saskatchewan River on the Prairie Lily riverboat cruise which shows you the city from a captivating perspective.

Go south to explore Grasslands National Park to immerse yourself in rare prairie wilderness where you may glimpse rare animals (including free-ranging bison), tipi rings and dinosaur fossils. Or to the north to Prince Albert National Park, where you can ‘rough it’ under the stars in a tent or stay in a luxurious hotel amid the boreal forest with its caribou, elk, bears, bison, over 200 species of birds and more wildlife.
Conference Theme:
Innovative and Sustainable Agri-water Management:
Adapting to a Variable and Changing Climate

General Conference Contacts

Conference Chair
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Program Information
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General questions
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