

**Post-Secondary Education
Accessibility and Affordability
Review**

**Phase 1: Regional Consultation
Submission Guidelines**

October 2006

YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Post-Secondary Education Accessibility and Affordability Review (McCall Review) is committed to including the community, stakeholders and the public at large in the process. It is considered vital that the community has the opportunity to provide input into the early stages of framing the process.

The guidelines presented here are for the *first* of two phases in the consultation process. Revised consultation submission guidelines will be made available in advance of the second phase of consultations, expected to commence in the spring of 2007. Those wishing to participate in the initial phase should endeavour to frame their submissions and presentations according to the content and format guidelines described below.

THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

For the McCall Review, the Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy (SIPP) will be coordinating the consultation and dialogue process.

In the initial phase, regional consultations and *consensus forums* will focus on the identification of issues and existing challenges related to access and affordability in post-secondary education in Saskatchewan. Submissions in this phase are not intended to produce recommendations or put forth policy options but focus on building a consensus on key issues. A series of consensus forums will follow the regional consultation hearings. These forums will discuss and deliberate on a synthesis of the information gathered in the regional consultations and through facilitated discussions identify priority areas that will inform the Interim Report expected in January 2007.

A second phase of consultations will commence following the release of the Interim Report. In this second phase, options for addressing the set of critical issues identified in the Interim Report will be explored. Submissions outlining options and recommendations will be invited. As in the initial phase, the results of these regional consultations will be synthesized and presented in another round of consensus forums. Emerging from this process, the McCall Review will explore options for its Final Report in the Fall of 2007.

It should be noted that copies of all submissions will be made available and accessible through the Post-Secondary Education Accessibility and Affordability Review website or by written request.

THE CONTENT AND FORMAT OF PHASE ONE CONSULTATION SUBMISSIONS

Members of the community are encouraged to raise in their submissions any issues considered to be of sufficient priority to them as individuals, communities, educators, educational or other representative organizations. However, given that the Review anticipates a significant number of submissions, *it would be appreciated if the following points were taken into account in the preparation of submissions.*

Identification of Issues:

- The mandate of the Review has identified some key objectives. These identified objectives should not be seen as a constraint on those wishing to go beyond the set of

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issues raised surrounding them. However, individuals and organizations should attempt to address, where relevant to issues raised in their submissions, the stated primary objectives in the Review's mandate in the body of the written submission. These include:

1. *Determining the supports needed to ensure people have access to higher learning in our province.*

Submissions should therefore identify specific and relevant barriers (geography, income, existing workforce participation, etc.) and address the needs of students to ensure that barriers to participation in post-secondary education are limited.

2. *Determining the most effective mix and type of financial interventions (for example, student loans, bursaries, tax credits, supports for basic adult education etc.) to improve post-secondary education outcomes.*

Submissions should address issues surrounding existing financial interventions and their effectiveness in terms of maximizing access to post-secondary education.

3. *Review the design and delivery of provincial student financial assistance programs to maximize impact and improve post-secondary outcomes.*

Submissions should address issues concerning provincial student financial assistance programs and identify, again where relevant, what kinds of financial supports Saskatchewan people need at different stages in their lives to help them access post-secondary education.

4. *Study the appropriate contribution to post-secondary education by individuals, families, institutions, employers and governments, and how that contribution should be made.*

Submissions should address existing levels of contributions by individuals, families, institutions, employers and governments and the extent to which they are appropriate, efficient and effective. In particular, submission should address whether current arrangements maximize or deter access to advanced education by individuals or groups of individuals.

General Issues

Individuals or organizations that wish to raise single issues or a very limited number of issues, should not feel constrained by the guidelines. Submissions of fewer than 1500 words should focus on the clear presentation of issues. Longer or more complex submissions of 1500 words or more should commence with an Executive Summary. The Executive Summary should highlight the key elements of the submission. This will assist in highlighting the focus of the submission to readers. Where the submission is being made by an organization, the submission should include a brief outline of the role and function of the organization.

Deadlines for Submissions

Individuals and organizations wishing to make a written submission may make their submissions in writing or electronically until December 18th, 2006.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Individuals and organizations are requested to provide the following contact details:

- The name of the individual or the name of a representative of the organization who may be contacted in relation to the submission, if required.
- Mailing address.
- Telephone number.
- Fax number and email address (if available).

FORWARDING ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS

All submissions and related correspondence should be directed to:

The Post-Secondary Education Accessibility and Affordability Review

Attention: Kevin O'Fee

Submissions may be mailed, faxed or emailed to the following addresses:

Mail: Post-Secondary Education Accessibility and Affordability Review
At:

The Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy
Gallery Building, 2nd Floor
College Avenue and Cornwall Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4S 0A2

Fax: (306) 585-5780

E-mail: mccallreview@uregina.ca

URL: <http://www.aee.gov.sk.ca/aar/>

FURTHER ENQUIRES

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