

New Regulations - *The Amusement Ride Safety Regulations, 2017*

The Amusement Ride Safety Regulations, 2017 represent a significant update to amusement ride safety standards for Saskatchewan. The updated regulations achieve greater consistency between the regulations and current industry standards, terminology and best practices across Canada. Updating the regulations is also part of government's commitment to review business related regulations within a 10-year time frame, and its continued commitment to public safety.

The Red Tape Committee approved the rewrite of these regulations on Aug. 8, 2016. The Ministry of Government Relations' (GR) consulted with the Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan (TSASK), and amusement ride owners throughout the rewrite process. GR received positive feedback from amusement ride stakeholders from inside and outside Saskatchewan and addressed the majority of concerns raised by amusement ride owners. The proposed regulations come into force on **January 1, 2018**. This allows time for the ministry and TSASK to inform stakeholders of the new regulations and key changes and for stakeholders to implement the updated codes and standards.

The Amusement Ride Safety Regulations establish and enforce technical safety standards through design registration, inspection and licensing of each amusement ride or device. Amusement rides include commercial go-kart operations and inflatable rides. The three main area changes to the regulations are: Update adopted standards, remove fee reference, and simplify and improve the regulations.

1. Update adopted standards

Standards and rides have changed since the regulation's inception in 1988. The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) have worked together creating uniform standards for amusement rides across North America. The newest standard published in 2014 is ASTM F2783-14 Standard Practice for Design, Manufacture, Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Amusement Rides and Devices in Canada. This standard replaces all previous Canadian standards with the exception of CSA standards related to aluminum welding.

In addition to updating the standards, the new regulations propose to increase the minimum liability insurance to be held by amusement ride owners from \$1M to \$2M, consistent with best practices in Canada (many businesses have \$5M).

2. Remove fee references

The Technical Safety Authority of Saskatchewan Act provides TSASK the authority to set fees by bylaw, and once set, these fees take precedence over any set out in any regulation. This transition is complete and the fees in the regulations are redundant and can be removed. No new fees are proposed in the rewrite of the regulations.

3. Simplify and improve the regulations

The regulations have been simplified, clarified and organized in a friendlier manner. For example, the adopted standards are identified at the beginning of the regulations instead of scattered throughout the regulations. This will help the public, amusement ride owners and stakeholders' better reference and interpret the regulations. In addition, clarity is added regarding the devices that are not covered by these regulations and that are regulated under different regulations or standards.

TSASK supports the amended regulations because the new regulations adopt contemporary standards, and provide clarity on the specific inspection requirements. Stakeholders support updated regulations and standards. The public will support the rewritten regulations because they implement the latest safety standards.