

*The Erection of Signs  
Adjacent to  
Provincial Highways  
Regulations, 1986*

*being*

Chapter H-3 Reg 11 (effective June 18, 1986)  
as amended by Saskatchewan Regulations 15/88.

**NOTE:**

This consolidation is not official. Amendments have been incorporated for convenience of reference and the original statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpretation and application of the law. In order to preserve the integrity of the original statutes and regulations, errors that may have appeared are reproduced in this consolidation.

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**CHAPTER H-3 REG 11**  
*The Highways and Transportation Act*

**Title**

**1** These regulations may be cited as *The Erection of Signs Adjacent to Provincial Highways Regulations, 1986*.

**Interpretation**

**2** In these regulations:

- (a) **“Act”** means *The Highways and Transportation Act*;
- (b) **“advertising device”** means a device, other than a type of sign that is, in the opinion of the minister, standard, that is placed or affixed:
  - (i) on land; or
  - (ii) on or to any object, structure or other thing that is on or affixed to land;  
adjacent to a provincial highway and that advertises, attracts attention to or promotes publicity for an individual, business, organization, product or event and includes banners, bunting, streamers, strings of flags or multiple flag installations, lights, balloons, dirigibles, holograms and search lights and other devices that are decorative in nature;
- (c) **“advertising sign”** means any sign intended to promote the sale of a specific product or the use or patronage of a specific business or activity;
- (d) **“agricultural enterprise”** means any activity that:
  - (i) derives produce directly from the work of cultivating the soil, or the raising of livestock or poultry, and which provides the primary source of income to the person owning or operating the enterprise; or
  - (ii) is associated with the primary processing of agricultural products;
- (e) **“authorized person”** means an officer or employee of the department or any other person who is authorized by the minister to perform the duties of and exercise the powers of the minister pursuant to these regulations;
- (f) **“commercial area”** means an area outside a city, town, village or organized hamlet which is subdivided to allow three or more business lots;
- (g) **“election sign”** means any sign placed to encourage citizens to vote in an election held pursuant to the *Canada Elections Act*, as amended from time to time, *The Election Act* or *The Local Government Election Act*;
- (h) **“identification sign”** means a sign that displays, with respect to land:
  - (i) the name of the owner or occupier of the land or the business or activity carried out on the land;

- (ii) the type of business or activity carried out on the land;
- (iii) direction and distance from the provincial highway to the business or activity carried out on the land;
- (iv) the logo, slogan or telephone number of the business or activity carried out on the land; or
- (v) any combination of the items described in subclauses (i) to (iv);

but does not include a billboard, notice, banner, bunting, streamer, string of flags or multiple flag installation, lights, including flashing lights, balloon, dirigible, hologram, search light, mechanized display, three-dimensional structure or art form;

- (i) **“logo”** means a non-heraldic symbol used to identify a business or organization;
- (j) **“off-premise sign”** means a sign that is located separate and apart from the land on which the business or activity is located;
- (k) **“on-premise sign”** means a sign that is located on the land on which the business or activity is located;
- (l) **“permit”** means a valid and subsisting permit issued pursuant to subsection 75(1.2) of the Act;
- (m) **“private sign”** means an on-premise or off-premise sign owned by a person or business;
- (n) **“provincial road”** means any public highway that the Department of Highways and Transportation maintains;
- (o) **“right-of-way”** means the property owned by Her Majesty in right of Saskatchewan for a provincial highway or a roadway maintained by the department;
- (p) **“sight triangle”** means a triangular area located at the intersection of a provincial highway and any road or railway line formed by straight lines joining:
  - (i) the point of centreline intersection of the provincial highway and the intersecting road or railway line;
  - (ii) a point 230 metres from the point of centreline intersection, as measured along the highway centreline; and
  - (iii) a point 80 metres from the point of centreline intersection, as measured along the centreline of the road or railway line;
- (q) **“sign”** means a written mark, free standing structure or device that is not part of any building and that is used for the purpose of providing information or advertising to the public;

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(r) “**signing corridor**” means a designated strip of land that is parallel and adjacent to a provincial highway but outside the normal highway right-of-way, where private off-premise signs may be permitted to advertise goods and services that are available at a local business.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s2.

**Authorization**

**3** The minister may authorize any employee or officer of the department or any other person to perform any duties and to exercise any powers imposed on him by these regulations and the performance of those duties and the exercise of those powers by the authorized person is deemed to be the performance or exercise, as the case may be, of the minister.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s3.

**Official signs**

**4(1)** A person who wishes to have the department erect an official sign within the provincial highway right-of-way shall:

- (a) apply to the department on a form provided by the department; and
- (b) forward a fee of \$50 with his application.

(2) Where the department receives an application and the prescribed fee pursuant to subsection (1), the minister or any authorized employee of the department may grant or refuse to grant the application.

(3) Where the minister or authorized person refuses to grant an application, the department shall return to the applicant any fee forwarded to the department with his application.

(4) The department shall charge the applicant any amount for the official signs and the erection of the official signs that the minister considers appropriate to allow the department to recover its costs and expenses pursuant to subsection (5) in providing, erecting and maintaining the official signs.

(5) The department shall:

- (a) arrange for the detailed design of the sign and the manufacture of the sign;
- (b) supply the materials and labour for the erection of the sign;
- (c) maintain the official sign on the highway for at least five years.

(6) After the expiration of five years from the date the official sign is erected, the applicant may apply to the department to have the department continue to maintain the official sign and the minister or an authorized employee of the department may:

- (a) approve the application or refuse the application; and
- (b) if the application is approved, charge the applicant any amount that the minister considers appropriate to allow the department to recover its costs and expenses in maintaining the official sign.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s4.

**Prohibited signs**

**5** No person shall erect, place or otherwise locate within 400 metres of a provincial highway, outside the limits of a city, town, village or organized hamlet a private sign that:

- (a) displays any intermittent, flashing or rotating light;
- (b) has any moving or rotating parts;
- (c) in any way resembles an official sign or a standard or commonly used traffic control device and that may cause motorist confusion;
- (d) is located within any sight triangle and, by itself, interferes with sight lines of any road intersection or at-grade railway crossing; or
- (e) is greater than 0.3 square metres in area for every metre that it is distant from the highway centreline.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s5.

**General conditions**

**6** A permit is deemed to be granted subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) the holder of a permit shall ensure that all signs erected under the permit are located off the right of way and do not encroach on the right of way of a provincial highway or a roadway maintained by the department unless expressly permitted by the permit;
- (b) the holder of a permit shall ensure that all signs erected under the permit are maintained in an appearance that is, in the opinion of the minister or an authorized person, neat and professional;
- (c) no holder of a permit shall erect a sign under the permit that may, in the opinion of the minister or an authorized person, cause or create an unacceptable hazard or distraction to a driver on a public highway;
- (d) the holder of a permit shall ensure that all signs erected under the permit conform to all local municipal bylaws dealing with the erection and maintenance of signs.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s6.

**Applications for on-premise signs**

**7(1)** A person who wishes to erect an on-premise sign which is greater than three square metres in area shall apply to the department on a form to be provided by the department.

**(2)** Where the department receives an application pursuant to subsection (1), the minister or authorized department official may grant or refuse to grant a permit to the applicant to erect an on-premise sign.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s7.

**On-premise signs not requiring a permit**

8 In addition to on-premise signs identified in subsection 75(1) of the Act, no permit is required to erect an on-premise sign that is:

- (a) a sign that identifies the architect, engineer and contractor of a construction site and that is located on the construction site for the period of construction; and
- (b) a sign to prevent trespassers and snowmobile operators and to restrict or deny access to hunters where the area of the sign does not exceed one square metre.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s8.

**Conditions applying to off-premise signs**

9 No holder of a permit shall erect an off-premise sign pursuant to the authority of the permit:

- (a) adjacent to any provincial highway, where official signs are in place on that highway and those official signs contain guidance, direction or information of the same kind that will be put on the off-premise sign;
- (b) **Repealed.** 4 Mar 88 SR 15/88 s3.
- (c) at a distance in metres from any other private sign erected pursuant to the authority of a permit that is less than or equal to the lesser of:
  - (i) the product of 12 metres and the number representing the area in square metres of the larger of the two signs; and
  - (ii) 150 metres;
- (d) nearer than 500 metres from the intersection of two provincial highways, or a provincial highway and a provincial road, and, for the purposes of this clause and in the case of an interchange, the 500 metres is to be measured along the highway from the nearest end of the pavement widening at the exit from or entrance to the main travelled lanes;
- (e) that is greater than 23 square metres in area or less than 3 square metres in area;
- (f) that is greater than eight metres in height from the bottom of the sign support to the top of the sign face;
- (g) that is made to form part of or is attached to a fence or building;
- (h) that is erected on trees or painted or drawn on rocks or other natural features;
- (i) that is not supported by free-standing supports with no struts or auxilliary supports;
- (j) that is not painted or covered on the back with a neutral colour;
- (k) that is placed adjacent to a horizontal curve on any provincial highway where an advisory speed has been posted;

- (l) incorporates an advertising device as part of its make-up or structure;
- (m) on land owned by Her Majesty in right of Canada or in right of Saskatchewan, unless it is set back from the centreline of the highway a distance as specified in the sign permit.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s9; 4 Mar 88 SR 15/88  
s3.

**Off-premise signs not requiring permit**

**10(1)** In the case of off-premise signs, no permit is required to erect:

- (a) directional signs containing only the words “Auction Sale” or “Auction Sale Today” along with a directional arrow and the distance to the sale, where those signs:
  - (i) are erected on the day of the sale and removed on the day after the sale; and
  - (ii) the area of the sign does not exceed one square metre;
- (b) election signs up to three square metres in area, where:
  - (i) the election signs are not erected until after the election writ has been issued; or
  - (ii) in the case of municipal elections, signs are not erected more than one month before the date of the election;

and are removed within seven calendar days after the date of the election;
- (c) industrial development signs not exceeding one square metre in area to indicate the location and identity of start-up operations for forestry, mining, oilfield exploration or other similar activities, where those signs are removed after the completion of start-up operations;
- (d) utility company signs to indicate buried property of the utility or other signs required by statute;
- (e) directional signs which indicate the location of sale of products or goods, where the sale is of a short-term or seasonal nature, and:
  - (i) the products or goods for sale are agricultural in nature and are produced at the rural location indicated by the directional sign;
  - (ii) the area of the sign does not exceed one square metre; and
  - (iii) the sign does not remain in service for more than two consecutive months per calendar year;
- (f) identification signs for research, demonstration or promotional projects related to the agricultural activities of a non-profit organization;
- (g) wildlife management information signs.

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(2) The off-premise signs described in clauses (1)(a) to (e) may be erected up to one metre inside the edge of a provincial highway right-of-way but only where they:

- (a) are not erected in the ditch or on the roadway or approaches to the provincial highway; and
- (b) do not, in the opinion of the department, interfere or obstruct the view of official signs or the safe sight lines at intersections.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s10.

**Revocation of permit re: off-premise sign**

**11** The minister or any authorized person may cancel a permit granted to erect an off-premise sign at any time by giving the holder of the permit written notice of the cancellation personally or by registered or certified mail addressed to the last address of the holder of the permit that is known to the authorized person or the department.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s11.

**Identification signs allowed**

**12** An identification sign may be erected only by:

- (a) a non-profit organization for the purpose of advertising a one-time or annual event;
- (b) an agricultural or business enterprise whose premises are located outside a city, town, village or organized hamlet, for the purpose of identifying the location of the premises and the nature of the business;
- (c) a non-profit, religious or community organization whose premises are outside a city, town, village or organized hamlet, for the purpose of identifying the location of the premises; or
- (d) any person for the purpose of public safety and protection.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s12; 4 Mar 88 SR 15/88  
s4.

**Application for identification sign permits**

**13(1)** A person who wishes to erect an identification sign shall:

- (a) apply to the department on an application form to be provided by the department;
- (b) certify on the application that permission to erect the sign has been obtained from the owner, lessee or administrator of the property on which the sign is to be erected and identify the person granting that permission.

(2) An applicant may apply pursuant to subsection (1) to erect more than one identification sign.

(3) Where the department receives an application pursuant to subsection (1), the minister or authorized department employee may:

- (a) grant a permit to the applicant to erect an identification sign; or

- (b) refuse to grant a permit to the applicant.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s13.

**Identification signs**

14(1) No holder of a permit to erect an identification sign shall erect a sign pursuant to the authority of the permit:

- (a) if, where the holder of the permit is a business enterprise or a business organization, the enterprise or organization will have as a result of the erection of the sign:
- (i) more than four off-premise signs on all provincial highways;
  - (ii) more than two signs on any one provincial highway;
  - (iii) off-premise signs on more than two provincial highways; or
  - (iv) more than one off-premise sign on any one provincial highway in any one direction of travel;
- (a.1) if the sign is to be erected adjacent to any provincial highway and identifies an individual business located within a commercial area;
- (b) if the identification sign is located more than five kilometres from the point at which a public highway or private roadway that provides access to the site of the enterprise or organization that is the subject of the off-premise sign meets the provincial highway;
- (c) unless the identification sign message relates to the point of access mentioned in clause (b); and
- (d) unless the permit number and date of sign erection are displayed on the front face in the lower left corner of an off-premise sign.
- (2) For the purposes of clause (1)(b), a provincial highway is not to be considered to be an access from another provincial highway to the site of an enterprise.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s14; 4 Mar 88 SR 15/88  
s5.

**Signing corridors**

- 15(1) In sections 15 to 18, “**corridor**” means a signing corridor.
- (2) The minister may establish corridors and designate the community for which a corridor is established in accordance with this section and section 16.
- (3) No corridor shall be established within 500 metres of the junction of a provincial highway with:
- (a) another provincial highway; or
  - (b) a provincial road.
- (4) Every corridor shall:
- (a) wherever possible, be established only on the right hand side of a provincial highway approaching the urban municipality;

- (b) terminate within five kilometres of an urban municipality for which it is established or the provincial road or provincial highway accessing such an urban municipality; and
  - (c) not exceed two kilometres in cumulative length.
- (5) The minister may establish a corridor for an urban municipality on a provincial highway provided that:
- (a) the urban municipality is connected to the provincial highway by a community access road;
  - (b) the urban municipality is connected to the provincial highway by a second provincial highway that:
    - (i) accesses only that urban municipality; or
    - (ii) is not more than 10 kilometres in length from the urban municipality to the junction of the two provincial highways; or
  - (c) the urban municipality is located on the route of a provincial highway.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s15; 4 Mar 88 SR 15/88  
s6.

**Establishment of corridor**

- 16(1)** Where an urban municipality wishes to have a corridor on a provincial highway, the urban municipality shall apply in writing to the minister requesting that he establish the corridor.
- (2) An application pursuant to subsection (1) shall be accompanied by:
- (a) a complete description of the proposed corridor;
  - (b) confirmation that the urban municipality has obtained the agreement of any rural municipality through which the corridor is to pass with respect to the establishment, location and administration of the corridor;
  - (c) confirmation that the urban municipality has reached an agreement with the owners of land on which signs are to be placed with respect to the location of signs and the rates to be paid to the owners of the land;
  - (d) the name of the rural municipality that will administer the corridor; and
  - (e) where the rural municipality does not wish to administer the corridor, the name of the urban municipality that will administer the corridor.
- (3) Where the minister receives an application pursuant to this section, he may:
- (a) establish the corridor and appoint the specified municipality to administer the corridor in accordance with the Act and these regulations; or
  - (b) refuse to establish the corridor.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s16.

**Cancellation**

17(1) The minister may, on written notice to the municipality administering a corridor, cancel:

- (a) his approval of the corridor;
  - (b) the appointment of the municipality as administrator of the corridor.
- (2) On receipt of a notice cancelling a corridor, the municipality administering the corridor shall surrender all administration records related to the corridor to the minister.
- (3) On receipt of a notice from the minister that he has cancelled a corridor, every person who has placed a sign in the corridor shall immediately remove it.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s17.

**Off-premise advertising signs**

18 No off-premise advertising sign shall be placed adjacent to a provincial highway unless it is placed within a corridor and the location of the business or enterprise which the sign advertises is:

- (a) within the boundaries of an urban municipality located within 10 kilometres of the corridor;
- (b) within 10 kilometres of the corridor; or
- (c) within the boundaries of the urban municipality for which the corridor was created pursuant to section 15.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s18.

**R.R.S. c.H-3 Reg 9 repealed**

19 *The Erection of Signs Adjacent to Provincial Highways Regulations* are repealed.

27 Jne 86 cH-3 Reg 11 s19.