

# BILL

No. 153

## An Act to amend *The Cities Act*, *The Municipalities Act* and *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010*

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

### PART 1 Short Title

#### Short title

1-1 This Act may be cited as *The Miscellaneous Municipal Statutes Amendment Act, 2023*.

### PART 2 *The Cities Act*

#### SS 2002, c C-11.1 amended

2-1 *The Cities Act* is amended in the manner set forth in this Part.

#### Section 2 amended

2-2 **Clause 2(1)(q.1) is amended by striking out “ ‘mail’ includes, subject to the regulations,” and substituting “ ‘mail’ and ‘ordinary mail’ include, subject to the regulations.”**

#### Section 33 amended

2-3 **Subsection 33(3) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(3) On the request of the city that provided a service mentioned in subsection (2) to a person, the council of the other municipality in which the service was received may provide for assessing and levying the cost of the service, and any amount so levied that remains unpaid may, within 12 months after the services mentioned in subsection (2) were performed, be added to the taxes on any property owned by the person and collected in the same manner as taxes”.

#### Section 59 amended

2-4 **Subsections 59(4) and (5) are repealed and the following substituted:**

“(4) When establishing boundaries for wards pursuant to this section, the municipal wards commission shall ensure that the population of each ward at the time the boundaries are established does not vary by more than the percentage specified in the regulations from the quotient obtained pursuant to subsection (3).

“(5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing the allowable population variance between wards for the purposes of subsection (4) and clause 60(b)”.

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**New section 60****2-5 Section 60 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Review**

**60** If a city is divided into wards, the municipal wards commission:

- (a) at the request of the council or on its own initiative, may review the boundaries of the wards at any time and for any reason; and
- (b) shall review the boundaries of the wards at least once every three election cycles or when the population of a ward exceeds the variation limit specified in the regulations”.

**New section 99****2-6 Section 99 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Meeting through electronic means**

**99(1)** A council meeting or council committee meeting may be conducted by electronic means if:

- (a) at least 24 hours’ notice of the meeting is given to the public, including notification of the way in which the meeting is to be conducted;
- (b) the public is able to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs;
- (c) the public is able to make submissions in accordance with a bylaw established pursuant to section 55.1;
- (d) the identity of each participant can be confirmed; and
- (e) all participants are able to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

(2) Subject to the regulations, a city conducting an electronic meeting pursuant to this section shall provide a location for the public to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs.

(3) If an electronic meeting is being held pursuant to this section and the video connection is hindered by an equipment or technology failure or by connectivity problems, the meeting may be held with audio connection only or by telephone if all requirements set out in subsection (1) are met.

(4) Members of a council or council committee participating in a meeting held pursuant to this section are deemed to be present at the meeting.

(5) A council may, by bylaw made pursuant to section 55.1, address the following matters related to council meetings or council committee meetings to be conducted by electronic means:

- (a) the method for giving the public notice of the meeting pursuant to clause (1)(a);
- (b) the method by which members of the public may view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting and make submissions;

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- (c) any other matter the council considers necessary to conduct meetings electronically; and
  - (d) any other prescribed matter.
- (6) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing:
- (a) circumstances in which a location mentioned in subsection (2) is not required to be provided;
  - (b) additional items a bylaw adopted pursuant to subsection (5) must include”.

**Section 103 amended****2-7 Subsections 103(1) and (2) are repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) Within 30 days after the receipt by the council of a petition signed in accordance with subsection (1.1) requesting a public meeting to discuss a city matter, the council shall call a public meeting to facilitate public discussion on that matter.

“(1.1) A petition mentioned in subsection (1) is sufficient if signed by the number of voters equal to 5% of the population of the city.

“(2) Sections 107 to 109 and 112 apply, with any necessary modification, to a petition pursuant to this section”.

**Section 163 amended****2-8 Clause 163(e) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(e) ‘**board of revision**’ means, as the case may be:

- (i) a board of revision of a city appointed pursuant to section 192; or
- (ii) a centralized board of revision established pursuant to section 194.1”.

**Section 192 amended****2-9(1) Subsection 192(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) A council shall appoint a board of revision for the city before the assessment roll is prepared pursuant to section 174.

“(1.1) The board of revision appointed pursuant to subsection (1) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least one secretary appointed pursuant to section 193.

“(1.2) If a centralized board of revision has been established by the minister pursuant to section 194.1, a city may appoint the centralized board of revision as the board of revision for that city”.

**(2) Clause 192(4)(c) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(c) the remuneration and expenses, if any, payable for services rendered by the board of revision”.

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**(3) Subsection 192(12) is amended:****(a) by striking out “and” after clause (a); and****(b) by adding the following clause after clause (b):**

“(c) respecting the manner in which board of revision decisions made pursuant to section 210 are to be published”.

**Section 193.1 amended****2-10(1) Subsection 193.1(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may establish an Office of the Registrar for the following purposes:

- (a) certification of boards of revision;
- (b) coordination of matters relating to boards of revision;
- (c) collection of information respecting boards of revision;
- (d) any other prescribed function”.

**(2) Subsection 193.1(4) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) respecting the powers and duties of the Office of the Registrar;
- (b) prescribing any additional functions of the Office of the Registrar;
- (c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 194 amended****2-11(1) Subsection 194(2) is amended by striking out “Section 192” and substituting “Subject to subsection (2.1), section 192”.****(2) The following subsections are added after subsection 194(2):**

“(2.1) A district board of revision may include any persons mentioned in subsection 192(2) who are parties to the agreement establishing the district board of revision, but only if representatives from a single city do not form the majority of the district board of revision.

“(2.2) If a person mentioned in subsection 192(2) is a member of a district board of revision, that person shall not hear an assessment appeal respecting property in that person’s city.

“(2.3) Notwithstanding subsection 192(10), if one or more members is disqualified from hearing an appeal pursuant to subsection (2.2), a majority of the members of a district board of revision or of a panel who remain eligible to hear the appeal constitute a quorum for the purposes of that appeal”.

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## New section 194.1

**2-12 Section 194.1 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Centralized board of revision**

**194.1(1)** Notwithstanding section 192, the minister may, by order, establish a centralized board of revision for the purposes of Divisions 5 and 6 of this Part.

(2) The minister may enter into an agreement with any person, agency, organization, association, enterprise, institution or body to provide the services of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1).

(3) Subject to the regulations, a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section has all the powers, duties and responsibilities given to a board of revision pursuant to this Part.

(4) A centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section is deemed to be the appointed board of revision pursuant to section 192 for the purposes of hearing appeals:

- (a) for any cities located in the prescribed areas;
- (b) of any prescribed type;
- (c) for any city whose board of revision does not meet the prescribed requirements pursuant to subsection 192(12); or
- (d) for any prescribed purpose, circumstance or situation.

(5) The minister may provide any clerical or other assistance to a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section that the board may require.

(6) Every centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1):

- (a) must be certified in accordance with the regulations;
- (b) is appointed for a term of not less than 1 year, unless otherwise noted in its agreement with the minister; and
- (c) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least 1 secretary.

(7) A chairperson and a vice-chairperson of a centralized board of revision must be designated in the agreement mentioned in subsection (2).

(8) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section respecting the following:

- (a) the area within which a board appointed pursuant to this section may hear and decide appeals;
- (b) the training, qualifications and terms of office of members;
- (c) the manner in which remuneration for services rendered by the board and other expenses of the board are to be paid and funded;
- (d) payment made by a city if the centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board for that city in accordance with subsection (4);

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- (e) the maximum rates for the remuneration for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses that may be paid by a city if the centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board for that city in accordance with subsection (4);
- (f) any additional purpose, circumstance or situation for which a centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board of revision;
- (g) reporting requirements;
- (h) the appointment of members, including a secretary;
- (i) rules and procedures for receiving, hearing, notifying, determining and deciding appeals;
- (j) the application, modification or suspension of any provision of this Part;
- (k) the circumstances in which a city may appoint and utilize its own board of revision;
- (l) any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**New section 197.1****2-13 The following section is added after section 197:****“Consolidation of appeals**

**197.1(1)** Subject to the regulations, if more than one party files an appeal pursuant to section 198 respecting the same property, the secretary of the board of revision shall consolidate the appeals so that all appellants and matters are heard in a single hearing.

(2) The secretary of the board of revision shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, provide all parties to the appeal notice that the appeals have been consolidated.

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations pursuant to this section:

- (a) prescribing circumstances in which appeals mentioned in subsection (1) do not have to be consolidated;
- (b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 198 amended****2-14(1) The following subsection is added after subsection 198(2):**

“(2.1) If the address mentioned in subsection (1) is the address of the city, all appeals must be forwarded to the secretary of the board of revision”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 198(3):**

“(4) In the prescribed circumstances, the parties to an appeal must attempt to enter into an agreement pursuant to section 204 before filing a notice of appeal pursuant to this section”.

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**Section 203 amended**

**2-15 Subsection 203(4) is amended by adding “, including rules providing for the chairperson of the board or panel to expel any person for improper conduct” after “duty of fairness”.**

**Section 204 amended**

**2-16(1) Clause 204(3)(b) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(b) the appellant shall withdraw the appellant’s appeal by providing written notice to the secretary of the board of revision before the prescribed deadline”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 204(3):**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) prescribing a deadline for the appellant to withdraw the appeal pursuant to clause (3)(b);
- (b) prescribing circumstances in which an agreement pursuant to this section must be sought before filing an appeal pursuant to section 198;
- (c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 207 amended**

**2-17 Subsection 207(3) is amended:**

**(a) in the portion preceding clause (a) by striking out “an appellant” and substituting “a party to the appeal”; and**

**(b) in clause (a) by striking out “appellant” and substituting “party to the appeal”.**

**Section 210 amended**

**2-18 The following subsection is added after subsection 210(6):**

“(7) The minister may require that if a board of revision makes a decision pursuant to subsection (1), the board shall publish its decision in accordance with the regulations”.

**Section 270 amended**

**2-19 Subsection 270(2) is amended by striking out the portion preceding clause (a) and substituting the following:**

“If a decision on appeal results in a change or alteration in the assessment of property and the assessment roll was confirmed before the decision was given.”.

**Section 360 amended**

**2-20(1) Subclause 360(1)(a)(iii) is amended by striking out “other than” and substituting “including”.**

**(2) Clause 360(1)(b) is amended:**

- (a) by adding “or” after subclause (i);
- (b) by striking out “or” after subclause (ii); and
- (c) by repealing subclause (iii).

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**(3) Subsection 360(4) is amended by striking out “(5) and (6),” and substituting “(5), (6) and (6.1),”.**

**(4) The following subsection is added after subsection 360(6):**

“(6.1) Subject to the regulations, no council shall pass a bylaw pursuant to subsection (4) extending the time for a board of revision decision pursuant to section 210 past December 31 of the financial year in which the appeal was filed pursuant to section 198”.

**(5) Clause 360(9)(a) is amended by striking out “minister” and substituting “council”.**

**(6) The following subsections are added after subsection 360(9):**

“(10) The Office of the Registrar established pursuant to section 193.1 must be promptly notified in writing by the administrator if the council extends the time fixed pursuant to subsection 210(4).

“(11) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) prescribing circumstances in which subsection (6.1) does not apply;
- (b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

## PART 3

*The Municipalities Act*

SS 2005, c M-36.1 amended

**3-1** *The Municipalities Act* is amended in the manner set forth in this Part.

Section 2 amended

**3-2 Subsection 2(1) is amended:**

**(a) by repealing clause (d) and substituting the following:**

“(d) **‘board of revision’** means, as the case may be:

- (i) a board of revision of a municipality appointed pursuant to section 220; or
- (ii) a centralized board of revision established pursuant to section 222.1”; **and**

**(b) in clause (t.1) by striking out “ ‘mail’ includes, subject to the regulations,” and substituting “ ‘mail’ and ‘ordinary mail’ include, subject to the regulations.”.**

Section 42 amended

**3-3 Subsection 42(3) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(3) On the request of the municipality that provided a service mentioned in subsection (2) to a person, the council of the other municipality in which the service was received may provide for assessing and levying the cost of the service, and any amount so levied that remains unpaid may, within 12 months after the services mentioned in subsection (2) were performed, be added to the taxes on any property owned by the person and collected in the same manner as taxes”.



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**New section 48.4****3-4 The following section is added before section 49:****“Interpretation**

**48.4** In this Part, except in subsections 49(1) and (2), ‘**rural municipality**’ means either a rural municipality or a municipal district incorporated pursuant to this Act”.

**Section 49.1 amended****3-5 Subsection 49.1(6) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(6) The council shall apply to the minister to alter division boundaries in accordance with section 49:

- (a) if required by the regulations;
- (b) on its own initiative, in accordance with its policy established pursuant to subsection (2); or
- (c) in the case of an election being held at large”.

**Section 50 amended****3-6 Subsection 50(1.1) is amended:**

- (a) by striking out “and” after clause (a); and
- (b) by adding the following after clause (a):

“(a.1) has a draft agreement and intends to enter into that agreement with the rural municipality in accordance with section 68.1; and”.

**Section 52 amended****3-7(1) Subsection 52(1) is amended by striking out “two years” and substituting “year”.****(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 52(1):**

“(1.1) The council of the rural municipality in which an organized hamlet is located may request the minister to order the reversion of the status of the organized hamlet, and the minister may do so, if the minister considers it to be in the public interest”.

**Section 59 amended****3-8 The following clause is added after clause 59(1)(a):**

“(a.1) in the case of an application to establish an organized hamlet, a declaration that the proposed organized hamlet and the rural municipality in which the organized hamlet is located have a draft agreement and intend to enter into that agreement as required by section 68.1”.

**Section 62 amended****3-9 Section 62 is amended:**

- (a) by striking out “and” after clause (c);
- (b) by adding “and” after clause (d); and
- (c) by adding the following clause after clause (d):

“(e) in the case of a change to the status of an organized hamlet and if the minister considers it in the public interest to do so, designate the former organized hamlet as a special service area in accordance with section 49.2”.

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**Section 68 amended****3-10(1) Clause 68(3)(b) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(b) holds office for a term of 3 years commencing on the date of that member’s election to the hamlet board, or if filling a vacancy, for the remainder of the term until the next election of a hamlet board”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 68(3):**

“(3.1) If a member of a hamlet board was elected pursuant to this Act to a term longer than 3 years, that member may serve the remainder of the term before clause (3)(b) applies to future terms of office”.

**New section 68.1****3-11 The following section is added after section 68:****“Organized hamlet agreement**

**68.1(1)** A hamlet board and a rural municipality shall enter into an agreement in accordance with the regulations.

(2) The agreement mentioned in subsection (1) must be signed by the rural municipality and the hamlet board:

(a) in the case of an application for a new organized hamlet, within 60 days after the establishment of the organized hamlet; or

(b) in the case of an existing organized hamlet, no later than 30 days after the organized hamlet holds its annual general meeting in the year in which this section comes into force.

(3) The agreement mentioned in subsection (1) must be made available for public inspection by the rural municipality in accordance with section 117.

(4) If the rural municipality and the hamlet board do not enter into an agreement or cannot agree to modify an agreement according to the prescribed terms and conditions for modifications to the agreement, it is a dispute for the purposes of section 77.

(5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

(a) prescribing the required contents of the agreement;

(b) prescribing the required terms and conditions to be contained in the agreement, including terms and conditions respecting modifications to the agreement;

(c) respecting any other matters relating to the agreement”.

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## New section 77

**3-12 Section 77 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Disputes between hamlet board and council**

**77(1)** If a dispute arises between the council of a rural municipality and the hamlet board of an organized hamlet within the rural municipality, the dispute may be submitted by either party to be resolved pursuant to section 392.

(2) A dispute mentioned in subsection (1) is limited to the following matters:

- (a) capital planning and expenditures for public utilities within the organized hamlet;
- (b) the percentage of taxes and special licence fees allocated to the hamlet account pursuant to clause 69(1)(b);
- (c) a hamlet levy requested pursuant to section 70;
- (d) the provision of services pursuant to section 74;
- (e) a breach of any of the prescribed contents, terms and conditions, or other matter contained in the agreement entered into pursuant to section 68.1;
- (f) the council and the hamlet board not entering into an agreement as required pursuant to section 68.1 or not being able to agree to modifications to an agreement;
- (g) any other prescribed matter”.

## Section 78 amended

**3-13 Section 78 is amended:**

**(a) by repealing clause (a) and substituting the following:**

“(a) prescribing additional matters that may be submitted to be resolved pursuant to section 392 for the purposes of section 77”; **and**

**(b) by repealing clause (f.2) and substituting the following:**

“(f.2) respecting procedures, processes and policies for preparing and submitting the budget to the council pursuant to section 69.1”.

## Section 85 amended

**3-14(1) Subsection 85(2) is amended:**

**(a) in clause (a) by striking out “25%” and substituting “the prescribed percentage”; and**

**(b) in clause (b) by striking out “25%” and substituting “the prescribed percentage”.**

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 85(3):**

“(4) For the purposes of subsection (2), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing the allowable population variance between wards”.

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## New section 125

**3-15 Section 125 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Meeting through electronic means**

**125(1)** A council meeting or council committee meeting may be conducted by electronic means if:

- (a) at least 24 hours’ notice of the meeting is given to the public, including notification of the way in which the meeting is to be conducted;
- (b) the public is able to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs;
- (c) the public is able to make submissions in accordance with a bylaw established pursuant to section 81.1;
- (d) the identity of each participant can be confirmed; and
- (e) all participants are able to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

(2) Subject to the regulations, a municipality conducting an electronic meeting pursuant to this section shall provide a location for the public to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs.

(3) If an electronic meeting is being held pursuant to this section and the video connection is hindered by an equipment or technology failure or by connectivity problems, the meeting may be held with audio connection only or by telephone if all requirements set out in subsection (1) are met.

(4) Members of a council or council committee participating in a meeting held pursuant to this section are deemed to be present at the meeting.

(5) A council may, by bylaw made pursuant to section 81.1, address the following matters related to council meetings or council committee meetings to be conducted by electronic means:

- (a) the method for giving the public notice of the meeting pursuant to clause (1)(a);
- (b) the method by which members of the public may view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting and make submissions;
- (c) any other matter the council considers necessary to conduct meetings electronically;
- (d) any other prescribed matter.

(6) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing:

- (a) circumstances in which a location mentioned in subsection (2) is not required to be provided;
- (b) additional items a bylaw adopted pursuant to subsection (5) must include”.

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**Section 129 amended**

**3-16(1) Subsection 129(1) is amended by striking out “of the voters”.**

**(2) Subsection 129(2) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(2) Within 30 days after the receipt by the council of a petition signed in accordance with subsection (2.1) requesting a public meeting to discuss a municipal matter, the council shall call a public meeting to facilitate public discussion on that matter.

“(2.1) A petition mentioned in subsection (2) is sufficient if signed by:

- (a) in the case of a resort village, 8% of the voters; or
- (b) in the case of a municipality other than a resort village, the greater of 20 voters or the number of voters equal to 5% of the population of the municipality”.

**(3) Subsection 129(3) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(3) Sections 133 to 135 and 138 apply, with any necessary modification, to a petition pursuant to this section”.

**Section 220 amended**

**3-17(1) Subsection 220(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) A council shall appoint a board of revision for the municipality before the assessment roll is prepared pursuant to section 204.

“(1.1) The board of revision appointed pursuant to subsection (1) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least one secretary appointed pursuant to section 221.

“(1.2) If a centralized board of revision has been established by the minister pursuant to section 222.1, a municipality may appoint the centralized board of revision as the board of revision for that municipality”.

**(2) Clause 220(4)(c) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(c) the remuneration and expenses, if any, payable for services rendered by the board of revision”.

**(3) Subsection 220(13) is amended:**

**(a) by striking out “and” after clause (a); and**

**(b) by adding the following clause after clause (b):**

“(c) respecting the manner in which board of revision decisions made pursuant to section 240 are to be published”.

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**Section 221.1 amended****3-18(1) Subsection 221.1(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may establish an Office of the Registrar for the following purposes:

- (a) certification of boards of revision;
- (b) coordination of matters relating to boards of revision;
- (c) collection of information respecting boards of revision;
- (d) any other prescribed function”.

**(2) Subsection 221.1(4) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) respecting the powers and duties of the Office of the Registrar;
- (b) prescribing any additional functions of the Office of the Registrar;
- (c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 222 amended****3-19(1) Subsection 222(2) is amended by striking out “Section 220” and substituting “Subject to subsection (2.1), section 220”.****(2) The following subsections are added after subsection 222(2):**

“(2.1) A district board of revision may include any persons mentioned in subsection 220(2) who are parties to the agreement establishing the district board of revision, but only if representatives from a single municipality do not form the majority of the district board of revision.

“(2.2) If a person mentioned in subsection 220(2) is a member of a district board of revision, that person shall not hear an assessment appeal respecting property in that person’s municipality.

“(2.3) Notwithstanding subsection 220(10), if one or more members is disqualified from hearing an appeal pursuant to subsection (2.2), a majority of the members of a district board of revision or of a panel who remain eligible to hear the appeal constitute a quorum for the purposes of that appeal”.

**New section 222.1****3-20 Section 222.1 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Centralized board of revision**

**222.1(1)** Notwithstanding section 220, the minister may, by order, establish a centralized board of revision for the purposes of Divisions 5 and 6 of this Part.

(2) The minister may enter into an agreement with any person, agency, organization, association, enterprise, institution or body to provide the services of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1).

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- (3) Subject to the regulations, a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section has all the powers, duties and responsibilities given to a board of revision pursuant to this Part.
- (4) A centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section is deemed to be the appointed board of revision pursuant to section 220 for the purposes of hearing appeals:
- (a) for any municipalities located in the prescribed areas;
  - (b) of any prescribed type;
  - (c) for any municipality whose board of revision does not meet the prescribed requirements pursuant to subsection 220(13); or
  - (d) for any prescribed purpose, circumstance or situation.
- (5) The minister may provide any clerical or other assistance to a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section that the board may require.
- (6) Every centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1):
- (a) must be certified in accordance with the regulations;
  - (b) is appointed for a term of not less than 1 year, unless otherwise noted in its agreement with the minister; and
  - (c) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least 1 secretary.
- (7) A chairperson and a vice-chairperson of a centralized board of revision must be designated in the agreement mentioned in subsection (2).
- (8) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section respecting the following:
- (a) the area within which a board appointed pursuant to this section may hear and decide appeals;
  - (b) the training, qualifications and terms of office of members;
  - (c) the manner in which remuneration for services rendered by the board and other expenses of the board are to be paid and funded;
  - (d) payment made by a municipality if the centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board for that municipality in accordance with subsection (4);
  - (e) the maximum rates for the remuneration for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses that may be paid by a municipality if the centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board for that municipality in accordance with subsection (4);
  - (f) any additional purpose, circumstance or situation for which a centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board of revision;

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- (g) reporting requirements;
- (h) the appointment of members, including a secretary;
- (i) rules and procedures for receiving, hearing, notifying, determining and deciding appeals;
- (j) the application, modification or suspension of any provision of this Part;
- (k) the circumstances in which a municipality may appoint and utilize its own board of revision;
- (l) any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**New section 225.1****3-21 The following section is added after section 225:****“Consolidation of appeals**

**225.1(1)** Subject to the regulations, if more than one party files an appeal pursuant to section 226 regarding the same property, the secretary of the board of revision shall consolidate the appeals so that all appellants and matters are heard in a single hearing.

(2) The secretary of the board of revision shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, provide all parties to the appeal notice that the appeals have been consolidated.

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations pursuant to this section:

(a) prescribing circumstances in which appeals mentioned in subsection (1) do not have to be consolidated;

(b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 226 amended****3-22(1) The following subsection is added after subsection 226(2):**

“(2.1) If the address mentioned in subsection (1) is the address of the municipality, all appeals must be forwarded to the secretary of the board of revision”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 226(5):**

“(6) In the prescribed circumstances, the parties to an appeal must attempt to enter into an agreement pursuant to section 228 before filing a notice of appeal pursuant to this section”.



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**Section 228 amended****3-23(1) Clause 228(3)(b) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(b) the appellant shall withdraw the appellant’s appeal by providing written notice to the secretary of the board of revision before the prescribed deadline”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 228(3):**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

(a) prescribing a deadline for the appellant to withdraw the appeal pursuant to clause (3)(b);

(b) prescribing circumstances in which an agreement pursuant to this section must be sought before filing an appeal pursuant to section 226;

(c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 233 amended**

**3-24 Subsection 233(4) is amended by adding “, including rules providing for the chairperson of the board or panel to expel any person for improper conduct” after “duty of fairness”.**

**Section 237 amended****3-25 Subsection 237(3) is amended:**

**(a) in the portion preceding clause (a) by striking out “an appellant” and substituting “a party to the appeal”; and**

**(b) in clause (a) by striking out “appellant” and substituting “party to the appeal”.**

**Section 240 amended****3-26 The following subsection is added after subsection 240(6):**

“(7) The minister may require that if a board of revision makes a decision pursuant to subsection (1), the board shall publish its decision in accordance with the regulations”.

**New section 290.02****3-27 The following section is added after section 290.01:****“Tax phase-in plan**

**290.02(1)** Subject to the regulations, a council may:

(a) phase in a tax increase or decrease for taxable property, or a class of taxable property, resulting from a revaluation pursuant to *The Assessment Management Agency Act*; and

(b) by agreement with any other taxing authority on whose behalf the municipality levies taxes, extend the phase-in to any other rates required to be levied by this or any other Act.

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(2) No tax phase-in plan established pursuant to subsection (1) is to extend over a period that is longer than the period between revaluations as set out in subsection 22(1) of *The Assessment Management Agency Act*.

(3) A tax phase-in plan established pursuant to subsection (1) may set limits on the amounts or percentages of tax increase or decrease resulting from a revaluation to be permitted in each year of the plan for:

- (a) taxable property; or
- (b) any class of taxable property.

(4) The limits mentioned in subsection (3) are not required to be the same for tax increases and decreases or for each class of property to which the limits apply.

(5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations establishing classes of property for the purposes of this section”.

**Section 305 amended**

**3-28 Subsection 305(2) is amended by striking out the portion preceding clause (a) and substituting the following:**

“If a decision on appeal results in a change or alteration in the assessment of property and the assessment roll was confirmed before the decision was given.”.

**Section 404 amended**

**3-29(1) Subclause 404(1)(a)(iii) is amended by striking out “other than” and substituting “including”.**

**(2) Clause 404(1)(b) is amended:**

- (a) by adding “or” after subclause (ii);**
- (b) by striking out “or” after subclause (iii); and**
- (c) by repealing subclause (iii).**

**(3) Subsection 404(4) is amended by striking out “(5) and (6),” and substituting “(5), (6) and (6.1),”.**

**(4) The following subsection is added after subsection 404(6):**

“(6.1) Subject to the regulations, no council shall pass a bylaw pursuant to subsection (4) extending the time for a board of revision decision pursuant to section 240 past December 31 of the financial year in which the appeal was filed pursuant to section 226”.

**(5) Clause 404(9)(a) is amended by striking out “minister” and substituting “council”.**

**(6) The following subsections are added after subsection 404(9):**

“(10) The Office of the Registrar established pursuant to section 221.1 must be promptly notified in writing by the administrator if the council extends the time fixed pursuant to subsection 240(4).

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“(11) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) prescribing circumstances in which subsection (6.1) does not apply;
- (b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

## PART 4

*The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010***SS 2010, c N-5.2 amended**

**4-1** *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010* is amended in the manner set forth in this Part.

**Section 2 amended**

**4-2 Subsection 2(1) is amended:**

**(a) by repealing clause (c) and substituting the following:**

“(c) **‘board of revision’** means, as the case may be:

- (i) a board of revision of a municipality appointed pursuant to section 241; or
- (ii) a centralized board of revision established pursuant to section 243.1”; **and**

**(b) in clause (v.1) by striking out “ ‘mail’ includes, subject to the regulations,” and substituting “ ‘mail’ and ‘ordinary mail’ include, subject to the regulations.”.**

**Section 63 amended**

**4-3 Subsection 63(3) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(3) On the request of the municipality that provided a service mentioned in subsection (2) to a person, the council of the other municipality in which the service was received may provide for assessing and levying the cost of the service, and any amount so levied that remains unpaid may, within 12 months after the services mentioned in subsection (2) were performed, be added to the taxes on any property owned by the person and collected in the same manner as taxes”.

**New section 143**

**4-4 Section 143 is repealed and the following substituted:**

**“Meeting through electronic means**

**143(1)** A council meeting or council committee meeting may be conducted by electronic means if:

- (a) at least 24 hours’ notice of the meeting is given to the public, including notification of the way in which the meeting is to be conducted;
- (b) the public is able to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs;

## MISCELLANEOUS MUNICIPAL STATUTES AMENDMENT ACT, 2023

- (c) the public is able to make submissions in accordance with a bylaw established pursuant to section 100.1;
  - (d) the identity of each participant can be confirmed; and
  - (e) all participants are able to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.
- (2) Subject to the regulations, a municipality conducting an electronic meeting pursuant to this section shall provide a location for the public to view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting as it occurs.
- (3) If an electronic meeting is being held pursuant to this section and the video connection is hindered by an equipment or technology failure or by connectivity problems, the meeting may be held with audio connection only or by telephone if all requirements set out in subsection (1) are met.
- (4) Members of a council or council committee participating in a meeting held pursuant to this section are deemed to be present at the meeting.
- (5) A council may, by bylaw made pursuant to section 100.1, address the following matters related to council meetings or council committee meetings to be conducted by electronic means:
- (a) the method for giving the public notice of the meeting pursuant to clause (1)(a);
  - (b) the method by which members of the public may view and hear, or hear, as the case may be, the meeting and make submissions;
  - (c) any other matter the council considers necessary to conduct meetings electronically; and
  - (d) any other prescribed matter.
- (6) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing:
- (a) circumstances in which a location mentioned in subsection (2) is not required to be provided;
  - (b) additional items a bylaw adopted pursuant to subsection (5) must include”.

**Section 147 amended****4-5 Subsections 147(1) and (2) are repealed and the following substituted:**

- “(1) The mayor or the chairperson of a local advisory committee, if authorized by a resolution of the council, may call a public meeting for the discussion of any municipal matter.
- “(2) Within 30 days after the receipt by the council of a petition signed in accordance with subsection (2.1) requesting a public meeting to discuss a municipal matter, the council or local advisory committee shall call a public meeting to facilitate public discussion of that matter.

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“(2.1) A petition mentioned in subsection (2) is sufficient if signed by the greater of:

- (a) the number of voters equal to 5% of the population of the municipality or northern settlement; and
- (b) in the case of:
  - (i) a northern settlement, 5 voters; or
  - (ii) a municipality, 15 voters.

“(2.2) Sections 151 to 153 and 156 apply, with any necessary modification, to a petition pursuant to this section”.

**Section 241 amended****4-6(1) Subsection 241(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) A council shall appoint a board of revision for the municipality before the assessment roll is prepared pursuant to section 225.

“(1.1) The board of revision appointed pursuant to subsection (1) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least one secretary appointed pursuant to section 242.

“(1.2) If a centralized board of revision has been established by the minister pursuant to section 243.1, a municipality may appoint the centralized board of revision as the board of revision for that municipality”.

**(2) Clause 241(4)(c) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(c) the remuneration and expenses, if any, payable for services rendered by the board of revision”.

**(3) Subsection 241(13) is amended:**

**(a) by striking out “and” after clause (a); and**

**(b) by adding the following clause after clause (b):**

“(c) respecting the manner in which board of revision decisions made pursuant to section 261 are to be published”.

**Section 242.1 amended****4-7(1) Subsection 242.1(1) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may establish an Office of the Registrar for the following purposes:

- (a) certification of boards of revision;
- (b) coordination of matters relating to boards of revision;
- (c) collection of information respecting boards of revision;
- (d) any other prescribed function”.

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**(2) Subsection 242.1(4) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) respecting the powers and duties of the Office of the Registrar;
- (b) prescribing any additional functions of the Office of the Registrar;
- (c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 243 amended****4-8(1) Subsection 243(2) is amended by striking out “Section 241” and substituting “Subject to subsection (2.1), section 241”.****(2) The following subsections are added after subsection 243(2):**

“(2.1) A district board of revision may include any persons mentioned in subsection 241(2) who are parties to the agreement establishing the district board of revision, but only if representatives from a single municipality do not form the majority of the district board of revision.

“(2.2) If a person mentioned in subsection 241(2) is a member of a district board of revision, that person shall not hear an assessment appeal respecting property in that person’s municipality.

“(2.3) Notwithstanding subsection 241(10), if one or more members is disqualified from hearing an appeal pursuant to subsection (2.2), a majority of the members of a district board of revision or of a panel who remain eligible to hear the appeal constitute a quorum for the purposes of that appeal”.

**New section 243.1****4-9 Section 243.1 is repealed and the following substituted:****“Centralized board of revision**

**243.1(1)** Notwithstanding section 241, the minister may, by order, establish a centralized board of revision for the purposes of Divisions 5 and 6 of this Part.

(2) The minister may enter into an agreement with any person, agency, organization, association, enterprise, institution or body to provide the services of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1).

(3) Subject to the regulations, a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section has all the powers, duties and responsibilities given to a board of revision pursuant to this Part.

(4) A centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section is deemed to be the appointed board of revision pursuant to section 241 for the purposes of hearing appeals:

- (a) for any municipalities located in the prescribed areas;
- (b) of any prescribed type;
- (c) for any municipality whose board of revision does not meet the prescribed requirements pursuant to subsection 241(13); or
- (d) for any prescribed purpose, circumstance or situation.

## MISCELLANEOUS MUNICIPAL STATUTES AMENDMENT ACT, 2023

- (5) The minister may provide any clerical or other assistance to a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section that the board may require.
- (6) Every centralized board of revision established pursuant to subsection (1):
- (a) must be certified in accordance with the regulations;
  - (b) is appointed for a term of not less than 1 year, unless otherwise noted in its agreement with the minister; and
  - (c) must consist of not less than 3 members and at least 1 secretary.
- (7) A chairperson and a vice-chairperson of a centralized board of revision must be designated in the agreement mentioned in subsection (2).
- (8) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of a centralized board of revision established pursuant to this section respecting the following:
- (a) the area within which a board appointed pursuant to this section may hear and decide appeals;
  - (b) the training, qualifications and terms of office of members;
  - (c) the manner in which remuneration for services rendered by the board and other expenses of the board are to be paid and funded;
  - (d) payment made by a municipality if the centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board for that municipality in accordance with subsection (4);
  - (e) the maximum rates for the remuneration for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses that may be paid by a municipality if the centralized board of revision is deemed the appointed board for that municipality in accordance with subsection (4);
  - (f) any additional purpose, circumstance or situation for which a centralized board of revision is deemed to be the appointed board of revision;
  - (g) reporting requirements;
  - (h) the appointment of members, including a secretary;
  - (i) rules and procedures for receiving, hearing, notifying, determining and deciding appeals;
  - (j) the application, modification or suspension of any provision of this Part;
  - (k) the circumstances in which a municipality may appoint and utilize its own board of revision;
  - (l) any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

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**New section 246.1****4-10 The following section is added after section 246:****“Consolidation of appeals**

**246.1(1)** Subject to the regulations, if more than one party files an appeal pursuant to section 247 regarding the same property, the secretary of the board of revision shall consolidate the appeals so that all appellants and matters are heard in a single hearing.

(2) The secretary of the board of revision shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable, provide all parties to the appeal notice that the appeals have been consolidated.

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations pursuant to this section:

(a) prescribing circumstances in which appeals mentioned in subsection (1) do not have to be consolidated;

(b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.

**Section 247 amended****4-11(1) The following subsection is added after subsection 247(2.1):**

“(2.2) If the address mentioned in subsection (1) is the address of the municipality, all appeals must be forwarded to the secretary of the board of revision”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 247(6):**

“(7) In the prescribed circumstances, the parties to an appeal must attempt to enter into an agreement pursuant to section 249 before filing a notice of appeal pursuant to this section”.

**Section 249 amended****4-12(1) Clause 249(3)(b) is repealed and the following substituted:**

“(b) the appellant shall withdraw the appellant’s appeal by providing written notice to the secretary of the board of revision before the prescribed deadline”.

**(2) The following subsection is added after subsection 249(3):**

“(4) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

(a) prescribing a deadline for the appellant to withdraw the appeal pursuant to clause (3)(b);

(b) prescribing circumstances in which an agreement pursuant to this section must be sought before filing an appeal pursuant to section 247;

(c) respecting any other matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.



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**Section 254 amended**

**4-13 Subsection 254(4) is amended by adding “, including rules providing for the chairperson of the board or panel to expel any person for improper conduct” after “duty of fairness”.**

**Section 258 amended**

**4-14 Subsection 258(3) is amended:**

**(a) in the portion preceding clause (a) by striking out “an appellant” and substituting “a party to the appeal”; and**

**(b) in clause (a) by striking out “appellant” and substituting “party to the appeal”.**

**Section 261 amended**

**4-15 The following subsection is added after subsection 261(8):**

“(9) The minister may require that if a board of revision makes a decision pursuant to subsection (1), the board shall publish its decision in accordance with the regulations”.

**New section 311.2**

**4-16 The following section is added after section 311.1:**

**“Tax phase-in plan**

**311.2(1) Subject to the regulations, a council may:**

(a) phase in a tax increase or decrease for taxable property, or a class of taxable property, resulting from a revaluation pursuant to *The Assessment Management Agency Act*; and

(b) by agreement with any other taxing authority on whose behalf the municipality levies taxes, extend the phase-in to any other rates required to be levied by this or any other Act.

(2) No tax phase-in plan established pursuant to subsection (1) is to extend over a period that is longer than the period between revaluations as set out in subsection 22(1) of *The Assessment Management Agency Act*.

(3) A tax phase-in plan established pursuant to subsection (1) may set limits on the amounts or percentages of tax increase or decrease resulting from a revaluation to be permitted in each year of the plan for:

(a) taxable property; or

(b) any class of taxable property.

(4) The limits mentioned in subsection (3) are not required to be the same for tax increases and decreases or for each class of property to which the limits apply.

(5) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations establishing classes of property for the purposes of this section”.

## MISCELLANEOUS MUNICIPAL STATUTES AMENDMENT ACT, 2023

**Section 324 amended**

**4-17 Subsection 324(2) is amended by striking out the portion preceding clause (a) and substituting the following:**

“If a decision on appeal results in a change or alteration in the assessment of property and the assessment roll was confirmed before the decision was given.”.

**Section 429 amended**

**4-18 Clause 429(1)(a) is amended by adding “, controlled corporations” after “municipalities”.**

**Section 440 amended**

**4-19(1) Subclause 440(1)(a)(iii) is amended by striking out “other than” and substituting “including”.**

**(2) Clause 440(1)(b) is amended:**

- (a) by adding “or” after subclause (i);**
- (b) by striking out “or” after subclause (ii); and**
- (c) by repealing subclause (iii).**

**(3) Subsection 440(4) is amended by striking out “(5) and (6),” and substituting “(5), (6) and (6.1),”.**

**(4) The following subsection is added after subsection 440(6):**

“(6.1) Subject to the regulations, no council shall pass a bylaw pursuant to subsection (4) extending the time for a board of revision decision pursuant to section 261 past December 31 of the financial year in which the appeal was filed pursuant to section 247”.

**(5) Clause 440(9)(a) is amended by striking out “minister” and substituting “council”.**

**(6) The following subsections are added after subsection 440(9):**

“(10) The Office of the Registrar established pursuant to section 242.1 must be promptly notified in writing by the administrator if the council extends the time fixed pursuant to subsection 261(5).

“(11) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations for the purposes of this section:

- (a) prescribing circumstances in which subsection (6.1) does not apply;**
- (b) respecting any matter or thing that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary to carry out the intent of this section”.**

MISCELLANEOUS MUNICIPAL STATUTES AMENDMENT ACT, 2023

**PART 5**  
**Coming into Force**

**Coming into force**

**5-1(1)** Subject to subsection (2), this Act comes into force on assent.

(2) Sections 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-13, 2-14, 2-16, 2-17, 2-19, 2-20, 3-3, 3-5, 3-14, 3-21, 3-22, 3-23, 3-25, 3-27, 3-28, 3-29, 4-3, 4-10, 4-11, 4-12, 4-14, 4-16, 4-17 and 4-19 come into force on January 1, 2025.

FOURTH SESSION

# Twenty-ninth Legislature

SASKATCHEWAN

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## **BILL**

No. 153

An Act to amend *The Cities Act, The Municipalities Act* and *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010*

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Received and read the

First time

Second time

Third time

And passed

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Honourable Don McMorris

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