

scotch, beer – as long as proper channels for ordering are followed. But specialty stores have to be kept at a minimum as it takes away from being a "specialty".
Example...I want to know how and why the price for a bottle of Highland Park Scotch is \$74.00 here in Saskatoon but I can go to Alberta...even Medicine Hat and buy it at a regular price of \$44.00 This is my biggest complaint. You correct the pricing differential and I could care less if the liquor stores are private or government owned.
Save our crowns. We need good jobs and the profit from liquor sales in this province. Stop the privatization NOW
Two major comments: 1) PRICE - I understand the taxes and base prices are used to support other government initiatives and I expect to pay some level of 'sin' tax for that. But, when I can buy a 1.5L of rum in the US for \$17 and here it costs me almost \$70 - THAT is crazy. 2) WHERE I CAN BUY - I absolutely want the convenience of being able to buy product at grocery stores and costco. Most times when I'm grocery shopping, that's when I would want to purchase wine or other liquor. Also, even if it totally messes with the government supply model, costco is able to source liquor far cheaper than any other retailer because of volume and special arrangements with suppliers. Why not let them pass those deals onto us here?
you mention that there will be 750 lost jobs but that will be offset by private employment, depending upon the model chosen there may initially be more jobs available but those will be lower paid with no benefits. I think there will be an increase in the head office staff and warehouse but there are going to be many problems that the already trained staff in the stores handle daily that will less likely be the case in private stores who are only out for profit. I believe the status quo is the best option or go back to total gov't control
I strongly feel that liquor stores should be kept the way they are. I support our government stores and feel that the social responsibility will decline and there will be a lot more under aged drinking happening with private stores.
All Public services are important, including public liqueur stores. They belong to the common wealth for the people, they are NOT there to be sold off for short term gain for the enrichment of a private entity. U have no right to sell off your citizens assets that will bring sustainable income to the province.
The Co-op and Sobey liquor stores in Sakatoon are excellent.
Make it cheaper.
Open more private stores
I really don't think, the price of alcohol in Saskatchewan is fair compared to other provinces or the US or european countries. And it will not help or change anything to sell alcohol more expensive than necessary. Whoever wants to drink alcohol, will do it.
no
No to privatization
I shop regularly at the Co-Op in Blairmore even though it is a substantial distance from my home and there is a franchise only a few kilometers away. Increased selection and competitive pricing are more important than what the ownership model is.
IF you control the distribution and let the retailers do the leg work for you, you'll make more money. and honestly... you'll make more. As I know people that bring back as much as they can from Edmonton every trip they can to avoid paying Sask's ridiculously high taxes. So if you were competitive. you would gain those sales... Great Job. Mr. Wall way to listen to Saskies :D
Privatize everything.
Do not privatize the liquor stores.
Frankly, I am so upset that this government is selling off our Crowns one step at a time!!! our taxes go up, for mid-income people, but the tax breaks go to the high income people. high income get tax breaks, and now that the government has determined yet again, that private-for-profit health care is the way to go....how does that fit into the universal health care. we need to get rid of this PC government!!!! we will never get back what we have lost....

Current model meets my needs. My experience has been that Alberta's model doesn't necessarily make liquor more affordable or have a wider selection of products. Some stores (e.g. costco, superstore) offer better prices and selection but the many small business liquor stores are in my experience more expensive than our public retail stores here in Saskatchewan. With all the issues currently facing this province it is disappointing to see Government put this level of rigor into liquor retailing. Lets see some leadership on the real issues please.
Better selection is needed. More specialty items would be great. I am displeased with the selection and the regulatory 'red tape' from the Saskatchewan Liquor Board.
Continue having government ran liquor stores. It creates well paying jobs for the people and in turn this money comes back in the economy. Privatization carries a slippery slope. We already have one of the highest alcohol related crimes in the country.... Having more accessibility to liquor at any hours of the day would create more crime and social issues... We should be concentrating on other social issues!
I would love to see liquor store inside of grocery store so I don't have to make another stop when I go shopping
If we don't have the money coming in, as we do now, we are not going to have money for hospitals and infrastructure.
get the sask gov out of the liq buisness
I believe that the current model, (with better hours)is a good one. I would be in favour of an increased number of government owned stores as the province expands. I found the "reinvest in other areas" question somewhat slanted. I would also like to commend the creators of the "Backgrounder" portion of the website for doing a good job. The infographics were well done.
Having good jobs created by selling a controlled substance is good government.
I feel the government needs the revenue from liquor sales. If they don't continue then the government will need to increase taxes to make up the difference.
I hope you change to privet outlets
You're questions show you have already decided to move ahead with privatization, so I'm not sure what this is going to accomplish. The government doesn't not invest in liquor stores they give you a profit just like the rest of the crowns. Selling them will lose that profit source and will result in increased taxes, there is no other way to make up the money. Also, if you are going to sell them, please sell them for a fair price. No gifting.
I prefer Alberta's private liquor stores setup.
What are you trying to fix? What issue exists? You are trying to create an issue where none exists. Privatized 2 wine stores -- how many are open now? I can only think you are trying to get people to ignore real issues -- like the handling of the saskPower issue and not having held responsible. The health care and wasted millions on the Japanese consultants. Concentrate. Your going to blow the boom by trying to over compensate with irrelevant issues. Don't be 2.0. Exactly what he did when he got in trouble -- made issues where none existed -- that cost him.
We need to stop privatizing and leave the good quality jobs as they are.
This government should quit pushing its agenda to "help its friends" by handing out lucrative franchises or other vehicles to diminish government revenues.
While I do see the advantage for government involvement in the retail economy tax and job wise I do not support such involvement. Liquor sales do not belong in government realm any more than groceries or tobacco products. Government should have other priorities such as highways and health care not be involved in retail. While jobs are important governments role should be to foster an environment conducive to private sector job growth otherwise they create an artificial economy.
If it's not broken, why try to fix it! I don't support privatization in ANY way!!
I'm filling this survey out when I'm in Alberta on business. I purchased about \$300 worth of alcohol to take home. What does that tell you?
Keeping alcohol away from minors is hard enough but now it will be worse and enforcement will be more expensive. This is a bad idea.

Privatizing Liquor stores in Saskatchewan is a very bad idea on so many levels and I do not support private liquor stores in any way. Not only will the province lose millions of dollars that are generated in liquor sales that go to the people of Saskatchewan for roads and hospitals people will lose good paying jobs. And even if "no one will lose their job because of attrition" those are good jobs that will not be available to the young people in our province. And in case it's not obvious when people have good paying jobs they are able to spend more money which helps the economy. Prices will not be cheaper for liquor and will likely be more as you also want to increase taxes; if availability is an issue in some areas build another public liquor store. So please stop use the arguments that liquor is going to be cheaper; more available and better selection when you know that you are just telling people what they want to hear not the truth. I've bought liquor in Alberta and none of those statements are true for the most part. If you want to increase taxes please go after the ones that have the money to pay for that for example Oil Companies; Potash Companies all those businesses who want to take our resources for peanuts and give nothing back to the people of Saskatchewan.

STOP SELLING OUR CROWN CORPORATIONS!!!

Government controlled & operated liquor stores create well paying government careers that help many Saskatchewan people directly and indirectly. These jobs help stimulate the local economy by allowing government employees to afford the products and services offered by those working within the private sector. At the same time huge revenues from the liquor industry are used to finance many of the public services we hold dear. The governments current involvement in local liquor sales holds them and essentially all of us accountable to make sure alcohol profits do not become more important than social responsibility. Saskatchewan residents both private and public should hold on to and protect this profitable industry that provides us fair jobs, excellent provincial revenues and a high standard for social responsibility. This to me is much more important than being able to purchase the next trendy product more conveniently from a private retailer who's main focus is their financial obligation to its share holders.

I think system is fine as is. Status quo.

Increase taxes to potash and oil corporations before cutting jobs to increase revenue.

I support Government establishments because they are cleaner and safer than EVERY off-sale establishment I have entered in my entire life. Don't force me to enter bars for off-sale when we have a safe option already. I find it hard to believe the government loses money selling alcohol, so the stores shouldn't be a burden.

Liquor is a drug quit trying to push drugs.

I feel liquor vending in Saskatchewan has always been overly paternalistic. I well remember going into a liquor store and having to make a selection on a paper slip, without ever seeing the product displayed. Then I went to BC where you could see it, as well as buy pop for mix. Then I went to Spain. It is available in every grocery store I have been in, beer, wine and hard liquor. Guess what, I have yet to see anyone displaying problems from drinking too much. I do agree though, that is must be incumbent upon the vendor to establish legal drinking age. Why must we go to a "special store" to purchase alcohol. Does that make us less likely to abuse alcohol? If so, why? Education about measured consumption would be way more valuable, than having a special place to purchase it. And, although I do support having as many jobs as possible, I think it is best to leave employment to the private sector under employment laws controlled by government. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey, it is welcomed and hopefully more use will be made of surveys in other areas of government spending for good guidance and support of the democratic process.

I think the government should maintain the same amount of revenue but I support more private stores and lower prices. I would rather the money stays in Saskatchewan than go to Alberta because people are travelling there to buy cheaper liquor. I would also like to see more selection in the stores. I do not want to see the people working at the government stores lose those good jobs.

Beer and Wine should be available in grocery stores. Not hard liquor though.

I would like to see the government use the SLGA stores as kind of a "baseline" market, carrying the "essentials". (If any form of liquor can be considered essential.) Allow more private stores, but allow them a boutique option. They can carry pretty much whatever they and their customers want to bring in, be it the "normal" stuff that the SLGA stores carry or something that SLGA does not. For example, the SLGA stores only have so much space they can devote to bourbon, so the variety isn't that exceptional. A private store should be able to bring in as much variety as they want and can make money on, as long as the minimum pricing rules are followed.

Concerned about the 750 jobs that would be abolished if the liquor stores go private.

Mr Wall I think its time you stay away from privatization. Its going to be your downfall come the election.

I do not agree with privatization of liquor stores. These jobs are what support small business in the smaller rural communities. And the monies the govt receives from the sales goes back into these commu ities thru spkrt and recreation fu ding that they would not other wise see. And privatization only benefits the private sector not the public. Why change whats working

Question..... How does the gov't plan on regulating the purchase of alcohol in grocery stores. Minors can go in and purchase

groceries, how are you going to stop them from purchasing alcohol as well. I do not take my children/grandchildren into liquor store when purchasing but I darn well do when buying groceries and I object to them being subjected to drunks!! Saskatchewan, if my information is correct, has the highest rate of alcoholism and drinkers. I also feel, like selling tobacco, alcohol should NOT be sold in stores with pharmacies.
The only thing that has ever bothered me about buying liquor in saskatchewan is the lack of food/mix at the liquor store. I don't think we need to sell liquor at the grocery stores...just groceries at the liquor store. and strippers with booze. in the same room.
One day I would love to go to a Safeway or any other store and buy beer or wine maybe even spirits God help us .
Privatize or go to a system similar to Alberta. The money saved rather than building and maintaining Government run stores could be better spent on health and highways
Keep the unionized workers in place in SLGA stores, people need these good paying jobs to make it in todays world.
If you are going to offer more private liquor outlets, then offsales should also get a discount on liquor purchased from SLGA.
The government should get out of the wholesale liquor business. If the government wishes to receives revenue from liquor sales, it should do so at the point of sale. Competition would increase service quality and selection in the wholesale business as it would in retail. The government should also eliminate restrictions on alcohol imports, both from other provinces and foreign states.
I think that any new liquor stores should be privately owned. I do NOT want the government liquor stores changed to private liquor stores. I think there can be a mixture of both. There are many government liquor stores and they can stay open and when there are new ones needed the private sector can become involved.
I believe that by having private stores alcohol would be even more accessible to minors and those who abuse alcohol. At least, government own stores can use the profits to help those with addictions.
I've recently moved back to Canada from the US and I miss the beer/wine sales in grocery stores.
The government keeps advising the Saskatchewan people that the income from the liquor board stores a good why not use that money for expenditures on the liquor stores or invest the profit for the future building of stores.
Private should handle wine hard liquor and beer. Beer sales should not be in hotels only to keep pricing fair.
Open to all stores, like almost all States. A row or two in my local grocery store. I do not want separate stores, two stops, two trips through the register. One stop shopping please.
I do not believe that liquor retailing should be privatized. Liquor sales are a stable and reliable source of income. Our province relies so much on commodities that fluctuate and have upturns and downturns that we should not take the short-sighted view of getting rid of a steady source of income. Furthermore, as long as public liquor stores are profitable I believe money should be spent on their business to maintain and when possible, enhance their profitability. We do not need liquor stores on every street corner or open 24 hours a day. I believe our public liquor stores do an excellent job in serving our liquor needs and in trying to sell liquor in a socially responsible manner.
Twenty years ago the Alberta government swiftly and boldly threw open Alberta's markets in beer, wine and spirits. The result has been a success story of intense competition, added convenience and thousands of new jobs. This article says it all.
About the last thing I think anyone with a sane, rational mind should do is say that getting people more booze cheaper is a good sign the province is doing good. This is like saying why don't we make heroin legal just because a few people are dumb enough to say "sure, that benefits me, lets go for it."
I believe our government should look at all regions in Canada , not just Alberta ! Other regions have government and private together which work well together , such as Manitoba , BC , Ontario , Quebec and the maritimes . Everywhere except Alberta has both public and private which seem to work just fine . The price will not be any cheaper since the private stores will have to make a profit and our government will have to make the same revenue no matter what! Social responsibility will suffer since one private store will succeed while another will sell to whomever just to make sales!!
I would like to see fully privatized liquor sales. I don't feel the government needs to be involved at all. I would also like to see no minimum price for alcohol- let the market determine the price.

No, no, no, no, no, and considering Brad earlier said it didn't sound like we wanted liquor privatized... NO. Stop fishing for support on this!
The operation of SLGA liquor stores is more expensive than a private option. The government could collect the same amount of tax on liquor purchases (or maybe even more) while still passing some savings onto consumers.
Please don't go to an Alberta model. If you're going to do anything, let's look at a made-in-Saskatchewan model that benefits the people of Saskatchewan, and not a "let's look at what other provinces do and copy them" model.
KEEP THEM PRIVATE AND STOP ASKING US THIS IS NOT ALBERTA.
I hope the government will consider commissioning senior public health officials to assess the public health implications of each of the options the government has put forward.
Thanks for taking the time to get public input on this issue.
I believe we need to keep our liquor stores publicly owned. No private ownership allowed. Keep it in our hands not profit mongers.
You were told plenty of times now nobody wants this but Alberta who complain the best thing for everyone is getting them drunk for cheap.
In my opinion, privatizing liquor stores does nothing for the people of Sask. and is probably only the beginning of this government's agenda to privatize our crowns. Imagine the money this province would have if we had never privatized our potash. What has Alberta gained from privatizing the liquor stores there? We should learn from other's mistakes.
Private business will decide when the market is saturated with stores just like any other type of businesses like sports, baking, gas etc. Why do I want to invest my tax money into land, buildings, energy and union people just so I can buy liquor. Let some one else take the risk. Just take the mark up on the products, no head aches, no brainer.
government should not be in business. Private business would get rid of expensive unions and allow business to be run for profit, the way business should be.
I lived in Rural Sask and for many many years we had a private business selling alcohol!! The price was exactly the same no matter if I bought at the private establishment or if I purchased in the city! If the price would have been cheaper all the people from the city would have been coming out to our private establishments in rural sask! So for the CUPE union saying going private is going to hurt union members that is not true! I do believe that we still need the public establishments and we need to keep pricing the same because that money is needed for health care, education and our crumbling streets and roads! I drive the number one every single day and it is terrible how bad that road is! Yes parts have been worked on but much more needs to be done!!!
I like the Montana model with a combination of government and private stores. The private stores including grocery stores focus on wine and beer with some speciality spirits. The government store focus primarily on spirits. The obvious greater availability of alcohol did not manifest itself in any greater level of public intoxication or abuse.
I want the liquor stores in SK to remain the property of the people of SK.
Privatization will lose my vote.
these questions are too long and wordy, my feedback is: do not privatize anymore liquor stores!!!! Use this money for our roads, schools, and other social programs! The revenue from our crowns is important! Once our crowns are all gone then what? once Saskatchewan belongs to every other country or people from every other country then what? then it won't matter who is prime minister or who is premier we will all be over tea kettle. We need these crowns or we are sunk! if you own a farm and decide to sell, then one day the person that bought it says, oh yeah you want milk, ok, but the price is now \$30 a litre. and butter is now \$52 a pound. What is you can't buy butter and milk from anyone else anymore? over tea kettle. think about it, someone needs to before it is too late
The level of markup on the wine from the Opimian wine club is ridiculous. All you do is receive it and store it for a couple days. No reason for SK to be 30% higher priced than AB. And when bottles are broken by LB staff there is no refund or replacement.
I don't believe that the reasoning for minimum pricing really holds up; the people that will abuse alcohol will find a way to afford it

either way, whether it's at their own expense or the expense of others through their recklessness. Price is usually the least limiting factor to the type of people that will abuse alcohol. We need harsher penalties on drunk driving and better access to support services for alcoholics. If we could focus all of the profits from government liquor sales into those problems alone, we would see alcohol consumption in general become less of a problem.
why is the government regulating alcohol? harm reduction doesn't come from higher prices, as a recovering alcoholic, an alcoholic will always find the money for a substance, no matter how high the cost is. so shafting the 90 percent of people who can drink responsibly is classic government signed, a concerned libertarian.
It has been my experience with our present government that they will do what they please regardless of public input. They like to give the impression that they actually care what we think but it's all a show.
I have lived in USA, Saskatchewan, BC, and Ireland. We need to remove the 1930's mentality regarding alcohol, reduce government involvement and interference, and continue to privatize these stores. There have been improvements, but there is also a goofy puritan idealism that civil servants need to bag my beer. Weird.
I do not agree with any additional private liquor stores and the government should at least maintain the government liquor stores that they presently operate. The government just recently privatized four liquor stores that should not have been privatized. Our population in this province is not that large and we do not need to lose more decent paying jobs so that big corporations can receive the benefits of the liquor sales. 80 million dollars profit in a year if substantial profits to be turned into the provincial coffers.
I personally feel that having alcohol priced by the level of alcohol in it has no positive help to the people of Saskatchewan. The people who have the money are getting gouged more and the poor are drinking gross chemicals from the cleaning shelves to get drunk.
If your worried about more places to purchase alcohol it doesnt matter, underaged teens will find a way to get it. It bugs me when i travel anywhere and alcohol is cheaper!
No Brainer. Liquor outlets should be driven by consumers, not government
Experience, atmosphere, convenience and selection in a store are most important. Any approach should be accompanied by more education about the harms of drinking and driving.
Why would the Alberta style for liquor retailing even be considered when the 10 year comparison of % change in the net income per capita derived from direct alcohol taxation/mark-up shows a difference of 82% in Saskatchewan vs. Alberta at 18%. When government loses the ability to control the retail price they lose their ability to increase their share of the revenue derived from the sale of liquor especially when the lobbying power of the retailers becomes too large. This is why the Alberta government had to reverse their increase in their flat rate liquor tax in 2009 which cost them \$180 million in additional revenue.
The government needs to get out of operating liquor stores. The wages for the unionized employees in these stores is outrages. The government also needs to get rid of the LIQUOR CONSUMPTION TAX as it does not deter people from drinking. If there is evidence that Saskatchewan has less problems with drinking than places where liquor is not so expensive, the government should reveal these findings. Cheaper liquor will not lead to more problems. People who can not afford the expensive liquor are already finding something else to drink.
The government should not give away profit on liquor sales to the private sector. The current setup works just fine with profits being put back into government coffers.
I think that an increase in privatization is important but also availability of most products below La Ronge level. So if the private sector can give me a reasonable variety then I say let's go that way; but I live in a rural community and still want the ability to purchase more than just pilsner, vodka and rye. I find that when the crown competes with private the private company's have a hard time competing. Think about how Sasktel still controls so much of the market. In rural sectors we have no other choice other than Sasktel. A less monopolistic mentality in phone, liquor and auto insurance would go a long way of improving competition creating more jobs and better prices for the consumer.
Oil and potash prices go up and down but you can count on revenue from liquor sales. why would we do anything that would lessen our ability to maximize what we our gaining from this cash cow. We can make improvements to our present system without increasing privatization which inevitably will decrease what Sask people will receive for hospitals, roads, schools.
There is no reason for government to be in the retail sale of liquor. I suspect it can leave retail and be net revenue neutral or perhaps earn more money simply wholesaling. It is also a huge conflict for government to be the private liquor store's competitor, wholesaler and regulator.

Allow all franchises to carry domestic beer for convenience
If I wanted to walk into some grungy store and have some person grunt at me while I bought dollar beer I would move to Alberta. I live in Saskatchewan and I want to keep my liquor purchasing experience the same as it always has been.
Retail sales of any product should be sold by private business
I strongly support private liquor stores here in Saskatchewan. It creates healthy competition and allows for more selection and lower prices.
Don't like options for private liquor sales anytime in Alberta. Stores are not fully stocked with lots of choice, wine stores, or beer stores or liquor, I prefer all under one roof with large selection as now in saskatchewan liquor stores.
I don't want my kids near liquor stores around parks, schools and recreation areas for children. I think Saskatchewan has a problem with alcoholism as it is, and can do with out easier access to it, I don't think the private sector really enforces the drinking age. I also think the revenue generated from alcohol sales goes to good causes.
It is very important that government maintains control of alcohol sales in this province. Mainly as social degradation prevention. But also it is important to continue to get the revenues from alcohol sales to fund other avenues in government.
I believe that you can have both a public and private competitive market, such as they do in BC, AB and even QC. I also strongly disagree that the province should have any role in how many stores operate in an area, that is not for government to decide - it would be like regulating how many coffee shops can be in a neighbourhood, or even convenience stores.
Most of the Govt run stores are well maintained, stocked and staffed. But as a taxpayer the staffing comes at a premuim for retail sales staff with no required degree and limited need for secondary education to perform day to day duties. The fact that they are unionized comes at a great cost as well. None of this is needed in a modern retail store to sell this type of product.
I think all liquor and tobacco products should sold in gov/stores
I believe that the profits from our public liquor stores go a very long way in providing funding for health, highways, educations, and so much more. The money from private stores would be minimal compared to what our public stores contribute. Please consider this as my children and grandchildren would like to see a healthy province that supports all classes of people not just the rich.
I believe that the private liquor stores should be pursued to make the pricing for alcohol competitive with prices in neighboring provinces. Additionally, Government funds should be used to invest in other higher priority programs rather than investing in aging infrastructure of existing liquor board stores.
I don't see the need to be exploring these options The is little to no demonstrated need for change I encourage the responsible use of tax dollars and feel the government is spending far too much investigating a problem that doesn't exist. Please reinvest our public dollars in resolving important issues.
I lived in Alberta for over 15 years; initially in the early 90's when liquor stores were being privatized and again from 2000 to 2010. There are three stark differences between buying beer, wine and spirits between the two jurisdictions. First are the significantly higher retail prices (nearly double in many cases) paid by the consumer in Saskatchewan. Secondly, workers in government run stores in Saskatchewan do not have anywhere near the knowledge (sweetness scales, food pairings, tasting notes) about the products being sold especially when it comes to wine and spirits and I don't believe it prudent for the taxpayer owners of these stores to fund their education in this regard. Thirdly, the selection of fine wines, rare aged spirits and unique worldly brews is drastically lacking in the government run stores in Saskatchewan. I find it deplorable that as a taxpayer I have to pay such high liquor prices so that those "high paying jobs" are maintained just so that I can tell the employee more about my wine and scotch selection than the employee currently knows. I would possibly be more understanding if that same employee would come to my business and pay my high prices and educate me on how to provide terrible customer service, but I digress. All Liquor sales should be privatized and regulated by the province acting as wholesaler. Any hybrid Public / Private system will not be fair to private businesses as is already apparent with the expanding selection of various single bottled beers in government stores taking away from unique product selections of private stores.

The time for the government to be in the business of retailing liquor sales expired in the 1960's lets be the second jurisdiction in Canada to figure that one out.
I am disgusted with the current Government privatization plans across the province. This government is selling off Saskatchewan and they will not get my vote ever again! Sickening way to operate this province. Too many decent paying jobs are being eliminated and contracts given to outside businesses. This is purely selling off Saskatchewan and people of this province are suffering because of it while the profits go elsewhere. This so called boom has had more negative effect then positive for the people pf this province!
Schools, roads, hospitals, policing.... that's where Government involvement in our lives should end!
our liquor laws are archaic when you consider the rest of the world.
let the private stores set their own prices.
If private liquor stores are allowed, where will the lost revenue from government liquor stores come from? Also, prices for liquor at private stores tend to be higher unless they have a sale on maybe one or two items.
I am a strong advocate for Government regulated Liquor stores to reduce social harm/negative impact on communities. But it is good to have accessibility to alternative outlets. Perhaps the gov't could proportionality tax an amount (in liters and subject to alcohol percentages) on bottles/amount sold in private venues. A type of tax on liquor in privately owned stores. Taxes on liquor should remain high to reduce the availability of alcohol consumption. I do drink socially and do not support prohibition.
We seen what happened when a private liquor store was opened in Saskatoon I believe. ? In government run stores all employees have to follow rules and regulations and also be accountable whereas private sectors to their advantage may not.
This survey is a bit of a joke. Many questions are disingenuous. Investing in government liquor stores provide profits which can be pumped into government coffers and help pay for programs.
I have lived and grown up in Saskatchewan, moved to Alberta for 2.5 years and then to B.C. for 2.5 years and I can honestly say that I prefer the Alberta retail model myself. Most stores in Alberta know their trading area and their demographic they are serving. In some cases there are a couple of liquor stores in close proximity to one another, but isn't that the same as the "coffee" retailing? Starbucks, Tim's, the Roastery all run successful business with loyal customers... the same happens in liquor sales. Even since the Sobey's came online here in Saskatoon, I much prefer that location to the one in Market Mall that I live right across the street from. Why? Selection, Airmiles, back end cooler, tasting, and price point. I am far happier driving to the Sobey's location than I am with walking to the one in Market Mall, which I use only use for a quick beer or wine trip if I don't have time to go to the Sobey's location. The public will decide who stays and who goes by sheer demand. I suspect, with the exception of some of the older folks that the Sobey's location in Stonebridge will exceed expectations and it will definitely cut into the Market Mall location rendering it unprofitable. My vote is to phase out the Provincial stores and let the private sector take on the responsibility and the liability. The Provincial Liquor Board will set the pricing and the retailers will do what they need to do to drive the business. Competition is good for retailers as it keeps everyone on their toes.
I wish for the government operated liquor stores to continue. I remember several years back the Riversdale Liquor Store in Saskatoon made a determination to stop selling large bottles of beer shortly before the neighborhood was gentrified. This stopped the flow of marginal people counting nickels to pay for a liter of Big Bear. It was a good decision, and an approach that should be welcomed at the Dewdney and 11at avenue liquor stores in Regina wrt individual sales. I see fewer opportunities to regulate this type of practice with an expansion of private stores. That said, I wish the gov't would take a harder edge to its corporations. Not to privatize so much as to replicate successful practices. There should be discounts on bulk sales of liquor; staff should be managed to engender loyalty(not complacency); more attention paid to successful product lines etc I also think there could be room to expand beer and wine to grocery stores well limiting hard liquor.
I need to drive around town to get everything for coming party at my place. 1. Liqueur store (booze) 2. Walmart (cups,soft drinks) 3. Ice (gas station) In Alberta I can get all that in one place. And of course Government workers are lazy
It is not so much the physical locations that concern me but more the ability to purchase alcohol online. Specifically products that are not available through the SLGA. Small batch runs, limited editions, small companies and foreign brands are much more difficult to acquire because of this.
I would be fine with the current ways things are set up for Brick and Mortar stores, but if I need to order a couple of bottles of

brands that the SLGA doesn't or won't bring in, I should be able to order these myself.
I do not think we need to be opening up liquor retailing to private business when the SLGA stores are perfectly fine. I do not trust Brad Wall or the Saskatchewan Party, and this seems like another attempt to move towards privatization and eliminating crown corporations that provide profit for the province in another short-sighted Conservative money-grab.
The government is fooling itself if it remains status quo. We travel to Alberta regularly and choose to purchase a majority of our alcohol there as a result of Saskatchewan archaic liquor policies. We will continue to purchase alcohol in Alberta and forego paying any tax in our home province until things change. We have a rural as well as urban property and in the absence of purchasing in Alberta we support our local outlet as they supply better service at the same price. It is time to get out of the thirties and get government out of the morality business. Start treating folks like adults and regular consumers.
The profits generated by the SLGA speak for itself. This money is utilized in Saskatchewan, for Saskatchewan people. Money earned by Government employees stays in Saskatchewan. Public employees are held accountable to the public; whereas, private businesses are accountable to the shareholders...wherever they are! ENOUGH ALREADY...with your lean/privatization agenda!! Shame!
I believe there is a place for private retail outlets but the government should still have full control over regulations and minimum pricing. It has been a important source of income for this province that does contribute to our health care and road maintenance. It should not be fully privatized.
We DO NOT support any private liquor stores. Saskatchewan leads the nation for drunk drivers. I am perfectly happy running to a government run liquor store to purchase my liquor. We never plan to buy from a private liquor store. We do not want a private liquor store in every corner of our neighbourhood. And finally, more will come!!! You would be laying off Canadians.
I feel, we have so many bigger issues to tackle in Saskatchewan, that privatization of liquor stores shouldn't be a priority.
Definitely do not lower the age restrictions. I hope this is not part of this process as a whole.
I am very disappointed in the sneaky way of introducing private stores as a small scale thing as a way to slide one past the public. I'm disappointed that my government values "better for business" (and by that I mean a few wealthy elite who will be benefitting from this situation) over decent wage jobs for citizens and important revenue for our province. we don't need more minimum wage wage-slaves. We need decent paying jobs. Cutting the price of a bottle by 10% and throwing 100% of the profit towards Gaelon Weston is a big error.
I believe that there is no longer a policy or public good to be achieved by our government being in the retail liquor business.
I believe there needs to be a strong gov't presence in liquor retailing. The Alberta example of a liquor store on every corner is not needed in Saskatchewan. Oyen for instance a town of around 1500, at one point had 4 liquor outlets.Are we replacing Gov't stores by a process of slow attrition with the eventual end game being only private retailers? A way of replacing a crown agency without actually stating that as a gov't policy?
The government is wasting to much time on this topic. There is more important items that they should be dealing with. Such as global warming. With out a green world to live in we won't have a place to drink in anyways. Just get on with other items. Why are they so concerned about the liquor stores. Just more privatizing by the Sask party. What will be next.
Maintain the status quo while moving to provide enhancements to sales and service in the public realm.
Have lived in England where I could pop to the corner store for a bottom of wine for a very reasonable price, I'm amazed at how ridiculous the liquor laws are in Saskatchewan. I would like the freedom to buy liquor with my groceries at a reasonable price. If other provinces and countries can, Saskatchewan really has no excuse.
Keep the stores as they are. And be pro-active in your community
The government should continue investing in Saskatchewan even liquor stores
why is there not the revenue in this survey as to how much was made from liquor board store in the past
I think this survey is worded in a way to suggest that the government doesn't make money from public liquor stores... which isn't the case. I do see though, that it would make more money from the use of private stores, because you wouldn't have to pay the staff and you would still get the liquor consumption taxes. Doesn't bother me one way or the other if there are more private liquor stores. Just more options to buy from are a good thing.
Privatize liquor so that we are more like Alberta or even the US.

Keep liquor sales in the province the same and go Riders
I believe the most effective means of distributing alcohol is through Government Liquor board stores. Because these stores are not subject to the same price regulations as private sellers, the price the products goes directly to revenues rather than to private profit and tax revenues. This ensures that lower prices and potentially higher public revenues. Though I disagree with an increase in private liquor stores, I think that private retailers, such as gas-stations and convenience stores, should be capable of selling wine and beer during and outside of regular LB hours.
Small business can run and operate a store as well as the liquor store now, for the most part. From what I have seen lately the smaller Government run stores would be considered a Disgrace if run as a private operation. Too much waste on staff, poor appearance upon first entering the store. The government would still control the basic price and availability any way no matter who operates the business. And revenue could be increased without having to deal with the unions and excess overhead. As for liquor retailing, open the doors. Keep it at 18 to get in and consume alcohol (If you are old enough to fight for our country you should be able to drink in it) but also allow minors in, this would help reduce the parents from over doing it when their kids could see what it is the 'ADULTS' really become when under the influence. (Example try the USA) Under the same rules and exemptions, Allow strippers, both male and female in restricted clubs to eliminate the minors, and yet allow alcohol. Only difference being if the club carries the female performer it should also have to run the male one the same evening, different times. Good luck with any changes.
There are plenty of place available at this time to support alcohol.
No privatization of liquor stores. No job loses. No doing this to appease your conservative cronies. Shame on you. This isn't Alberta!! Love how you are appealing to the social media. They don't have a bloody clue how they are being used to further your agenda.
Keep our liquor government run, with good government jobs, and extra revenue for the Saskatchewan people.
Would like the opportunity to purchase liquor at a grocery store. I should have to drive to another location if the business is willing to provide both services. Private liquor stores will provide better selection. We are paying far too much for liquor vs other locations.
I've been to the Sobeys store several times. It is a far greater customer service experience than I have ever experienced in any government store. Even though commercials try to tell me different, I know that sales from private stores also go towards better roads, schooling, etc... through liquor taxation. It also provides more realistic wages for employees enabling stores to hire more staff to better service their customers. No brainer.
- I believe that SLGA employees about 1,000 full time & part time employees not the 750 in your background data. - Very disappointed that your government would terminate the current 1,000 employees and replace them with minimum hourly paid employees - With the termination of 1,000 employees your government will lose a good portion of employee provincial tax base. - I believe that the price of all alcohol products will increase without the liquor retailing model
The government should be happy with sales tax only. I feel the less government in my life the better. There should be more competition to lower the price. I would also state that I drink next to nothing. I struggle to consume a dozen beer a year and less than 20 oz of hard liquor.
I think all business's that sell liquor should be on an equal playing field. The government should sell their liquor stores. The Government would wholesale liquor to private business without adding any more outlets. Once the population goes up in Saskatchewan then add more accordingly. At the end of the day you would have all liquor stores, private liquor stores, franchise's and off sale selling liquor on an equal playing field, with the government wholesaling the liquor.
Keep your promise Brad Wall and don't privatize Liquor Stores. The liquor sales support the province. Privatization will not.
Don't privatize this crown or any other crown.
Privatizing liquor stores is a bad idea. It makes no more sense than if the provincial government were to change the legal drinking to 18, so as to keep in line with Manitoba and Alberta. Obviously they will not do that, the issue has been addressed before and most agree it's fine the way it is. Keep existing Crown-controlled and operated liquor stores the way they are and if there is opportunity to open others where it is deemed they would be profitable (unlikely in smaller, rural centres but communities that are close to or have recently reached city status, then yes) then consider that as well.
I think the government should not be in the business of selling liquor but I do agree the government should somewhat regulate it eg. number of establishments allowed in a community etc. I would like to see a wholesale pricing that is equal to everyone involved in selling alcohol - having the present off sale establishments denied wholesale pricing on spirits and wine while the

government is in direct competition with these establishments is not right.
The Sask party needs to drop its commitment to ideology. With softening resource prices, why would the government choose to give up needed revenue by privatizing liquor and instead see that revenue source go out of province where it does zero good for Saskatchewan citizens.
I think they should be privatized. The Government employees make more money and have benefits than the employees who sell the same products in our little rural store. Also rural is limited to the kinds of beer they can stock. BUT the main reason is I believe in free enterprise.
I believe the government has no more business selling beer than it does tires. I believe in the free market. I want to be left alone to make good or bad decisions and be responsible for the success or agonizing failure that may come.
Dislike the new private stores. Stop selling off the province to the highest bidder!
I like the way it is now!
I believe the pricing of alcohol in Saskatchewan, and Canada is absurd. You are making approximately 200% in the example shown between the mark up and the tax. When alcohol is purchased in the US you pay about 1/3 the price. I wonder why everyone that comes over the border brings back as much as possible? If I could have made a 200% profit in my business i could have retired at a very young age! Its great to have a monopoly! I realize money has to come from somewhere to run the province. Perhaps private business can make a go of it if their pricing was a little lower and the Gov't could make as much money without the overhead of running the stores? Hate to see the good paying jobs leave the community though...vicious circle?
Offer more products from other regions of Canada, particularly British Columbia. The availability of a wide variety of product can allow government liquor stores to be more competitive. A greater selection of product outweighs the price point offered by government liquor stores.
do not fix that which is not broken
So you've got 85% profits. How does giving that up allow you to "focus" on other areas? I want a mixed-system. I want a balance of selection and public benefit. I want a government that doesn't make decisions over ideological reasons.
I feel it would be beneficial to operate privatized liquor stores at reduced and competitive prices with our neighboring provinces and the total income that is generated will not be affected. Currently the majority of people I know purchase mass volumes of alcohol when they travel from Alberta as the price is really not comparable as we pay a major premium to drink in this province that i love
Privatizing will be a mistake. You will gain a one-time lump sum of money for the sale and then where will the money come from? More taxes. The almighty dollar becomes the benchmark and social responsibility will be a thing of the past. Decent-paying jobs will be lost to barely above minimum wage jobs, that also equals less tax dollars for the province. DO NOT SELL OFF THE CASH COW!!!!
Private liquor store s will be hatder to regulate. That was evident with the private store in Saskatoon that was found not following the regs.
Keep liquor stores publicly owned, maintaining this source of good paying, secure jobs and use the profits for public healthcare.
Allow local alcohol producers to distribute directly to retail stores, same as they can distribute directly to restaurants and pubs. SLGA markup, mishandling, delays, and bureaucracy are a deterrent. Allow growlers of beer to be filled in retail stores, restaurants and pubs, not just onsite at local breweries and farmers markets. Alberta and Manitoba already allow/promote this in retail stores. Many other jurisdictions allow in pubs/restaurants. Allow all breweries (including brewpubs) to sell at farmers markets. Increase maximum annual production limit for microbreweries to 20,000 HL, same as Alberta. Institute more priority, support and promotion for local alcohol producers. Keeps more revenue and employment in the province, while also bringing in more tourism and raising overall culture.
I have been frustrated by the lack of varieties available from the SLGA Product Listing. For example, I enjoy trying different varieties of Growers cider, and whenever am in Alberta or BC I check on what flavours are locally available. I find it very strange that SK only has strawberry rhubarb available in the 6x330ml case. What happened to the standard Granny Smith or Extra Dry Apple? Never mind the many other variaties Growers provides..

I am in support of privatized liquor stores as long as they are able to select whatever product they wish to sell!
Please do not get rid of the way the liquor stores are run now. We certainly do not need a liquor outlet on every street corner like they do in Alberta.
We have had private stores through franchises for many, many years in small and rural areas with no real problems. Continue to collect tax on a warehouse basis and move on to more important community investments.
I have been in both of the Saskatoon Coop and Sobey's stores and was impressed with the staff and their knowledge. I have heard that the service in the Saskatoon government stores has improved since the private openings. Amazing what competition can do.
I do not want to see liquor stores on every corner like in Alberta. Only large companies will be able to operate in the cities to compete. In rural areas prices of liquor will need to be quite a bit higher in order to make a profit. This is hardly fair to people who are forced to pay these prices.
I find these questions very leading so the participant responds in favour of privatization.
Government should maintain control as is.....NO PRIVATIZATION
Want to see lower prices and better selection
I disagree on any form of privatization. It is just another way so the rich can get wealthier and the middle class can get poorer.
Privatize liquor stores so we can compete with prices in neighbouring provinces.
I totally disagree with selling alcohol privately retail
Privatization is foolish and a theft of our Common Wealth.
I believe alcohol should be sold in grocery stores. I do not drink much but it would be nice to be able to buy a bottle of wine easily when I am getting groceries without having to make an extra trip to a government liquor store. Let's leave selling liquor to store owners and use our resources and time to focus on what really matters and that's education and healthcare!
There is no reason why liquor retailing should be any different than tobacco, similar caps on age restrictions and penalties for failing to properly check age of customers. I would even strongly agree with the province getting out of wholesaling, and just collect the taxes.
I am strongly opposed to opening privately owned liquor stores. If more liquor stores are needed, the governed should increase the number of public liquor stores. Public liquor stores generate profit for our province to reinvest in roads, healthcare and other very important public services.
Revenues for government important. This money should at least go towards health care as you know there are costs related to alcoholism.
I am satisfied with the status quo. My understanding of the offsale is that they are open and provide service when the govt stores are not open (evenings and sundays). I don't mind a blend of both govt and private stores but why do you want to end something that makes money. If you privatize all the crowns that make money then you leave the other crowns that lose money to be covered by taxpayers. That makes no sense.
Neither I nor my husband drink alcohol and I certainly do NOT appreciate our tax dollars going to pay \$20/hr. (plus) to hand out liquor (which nobody NEEDS) when I hand out food (that people NEED) at a level 4 care home for less wages. I would definitely support private run liquor stores and let my tax dollars get the health care system in better shape.
The new private co-op store in Saskatoon is remarkable. A well executed facility run by an organization that knows how to retail properly. Our government doesn't belong in retail business.
I prefer the Quebec legislation, but more like Alberta as a minimum.
It's not the 1920's anymore. Time to get with the times.
The overall selection at the Swift Current LBS is terrible. The product is continually changing, which isn't a bad thing, but it sucks when you find a new favorite, only to discover it's been discontinued next month
Keep things as they are with a mix between Govt owned and private
Gov't stores are places that are a source of pretty good jobs for many people in this Province and I am in favour of that .. not sure private stores would do the same (probably not - pay and benefits would likely be much less and I don't agree they should be just so the private owners can make big bucks at the expense of employees!) Gov't stores are efficiently run now and I see no reason (other than right wing political philosophy) that they should change the way things are now. Small towns are allowed to have minor outlets which is ok along with off-sale at local hotels. If more stores are needed then the gov't should invest in

them themselves thus providing more jobs and receiving the benefit of sale profits instead of giving profits away to private owners!
The Saskatchewan Government should invest revenue in more efficient and better health care rather than investing back into government liquor stores.
The government should back out of liquor sales and allow the grossly inflated prices to come down. The wages of liquor store employees are also ridiculously high, compared to people in similar, non-government positions. I support the Alberta-style fully private system.
Get with the times.
The government run liquor stores make money for the province. Selling off liquor stores decreases the amount of future revenue available while sending the profits to private vendors that are not necessarily residents of Saskatchewan.
The big thing for everyone is not being able to get reasonably priced liquor like privatized provinces and USA. Competition is a good thing in business and when the gov't monopolizes that people will make their own or purchase outside a lot of the time.
We have two children that live in Alta and neither one says that the system there is better. I think we as a prov. have to look real hard at what benefits it would bring to the people of this prov. if there was a switch to any other system based solely on free enterprising thinking. In the end we the people are the bosses not you the politicians what ever your political strips are.
Went on line to review 2013 financial. Spent 40 years in the private sector and keep thinking that we are the share holders in this corp. and recieve the benifit of the tax and wholesale\retail profit. I could not imagine that the national corp that I was with would rush headlong into giving away 1% let alone 15 to 20% of their revenue. The minimal employee head count compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars generated is excellent compared to a lot of private companies. If this is about political beliefs, and not about how to improve the lives of Sask residents and their tax burden, then I may have wasted my vote last election and I will be stopping around my MLA's office to follow up on this. I live,work,purchase and pay tax here. I also vote here, every election even when I knew it was like shouting in the wind!
You don't know what you got til it's gone. Privatization would be a financial mistake let alone the social nightmare. Private stores think a sale is a sale whereas a government owned store has trained staff to deal with intoxicated patrons making sure they do not get served just to make a buck. Government stores have well trained staff who have a moral obligation to not serve under age patrons. You will not get that consistent quality of service in a private store. I have visited your big wonderful Sobeys liquor store in Saskatoon. I was very disappointed with the lack of customer service. We were in there for 20 minutes and never were approached by any of the staff. That never happens in Government liquor stores where the staff is friendly and knowledgeable.
I believe all government liquor stores that can consistently maintain a net profit should stay in business, and more operated if profit is possible. Any net profit can and should support other programs in the province such as health care, highways, etc. I support and will continue to shop at government owned liquor stores, even if the prices are higher than other retail settings. The set price of alcoholic beverages, even if higher, is acceptable with profits being placed back into the economy.
Raise the age to 21, lower provincial profit on alcohol, lower price reduces crime, Its statistically proven. Make every politician pay back 10% of their alcohol consumption. GOLDEN.
The terms "retail" and "government" do not belong together. This concept is outdated. Let the market decide and get out of the business altogether. Go ahead and tax it if you must, but quit paying high level wages/pensions to what amounts to store clerks.
We love our coop liquor store in Saskatoon. Since opening it is the only store we go to.
I could not care less about if the store I buy my li
keep all liquor stores public government run.....making the liquor stores private will only make it easier for minors to get booze, will have more people drinking becoming alcoholics if the booze is cheaper putting a higher strain on our health care system to take care of them, and how many gov employees will be unemployed which will end up on putting them on unemployment. big companies like Sobeys will get richer while the profit they make and pocket could of been used for our hospitals, parks, police, schools .. keep store public
The government's priority from liquor retailing should be maintaining and growing revenue while maintaining good fulltime jobs that support Sask. Families. Some of the survey questions are unfair because they assume building government liquor stores takes money from spending

priorities like roads and schools when in fact the revenue from the stores help pay for these priorities.
we have been doing our liquor purchases more often at off sale outlets now that the liquor board has been phasing out cases of 24 bottles. we don't always buy large but it is frustrating that they don't carry it in their selection anymore. we were told it was because they want to phase out bottles entirely to force cans which are cheaper to recycle. i don't believe it is that reason and think they would rather charge more for a person to buy two cases of 12 than to sell a case of 24 a few dollars cheaper. more money gained. the issue for the government is not losing control and safety over the purchase of alcohol but the loss of possible revenue by allowing consumers to shop elsewhere. even with taxes included they may lose revenue from simple mark up at the liquor boards as consumers may prefer to purchase with their groceries or at a cheaper private location.
Why destroy a good situation. Private liquor stores have no positive effect on Saskatchewan. With government run stores we have friendly knowledgeable staff. We keep the under age from purchasing alcohol and don't serve intoxicated customers which is all safety to the public. There are thousands of people that would be losing their jobs they have worked so hard to be proud of. Destroying families and opening the book to minors being able to purchase alcohol and intoxication never being an issue has absolutely no benefits so private liquor stores are a very bad idea to everyone. People only possibly want them because they are under the false impression alcohol will be dirt cheap!!! FALSE FACTS!!!!!!
I would prefer less availability of liquor not more. With Sask having the highest rate of driving intoxicated why would we even consider having more options. Private liquor stores will be only thinking of profit not the age of the people buying.
I have lived in other jurisdictions, including the USA. Saskatchewan liquor laws and government stores are embarrassing. Consumer choice should rule. Consumers would be much happier with the government if it stayed out of being in the middle of the transaction and controlling what we can drink. The wine selection in SLGA stores is a shame.
Keep the current system we have right now
I support the Saskatchewan Liquor Board. I truly believe government regulation of a Vice industry is incredibly important. The Private Sector may be more effective in pricing and production location/Variety, but the Private Sector will always be invested in Profits. There is no Social or Moral basis for Private Sector Liquor stores to follow. Private Industry is for Profit only, and will forever remain that way. Controlling Liquor via our Liquor Board is important, and the profits important to our province.
Keep liquor sales public and even expand number of public liquor stores.
Other jurisdictions offer liquor in or beside grocery stores with no problem. Alberta is a good example. If you go to other countries you find beer, wine and spirits readily available in grocery stores and I do not believe they have worse social problems due to that. I am thinking of France, Finland, USA that come readily to mind.
More privatization! MORE! MOAAAAAR!!
Leave well enough alone.
I am in total favour of Alberta style liquor retailing in Saskatchewan.
We as Saskatchewan people need to keep our government and crowns the way they are for the good to our future. Selling them off is wrong and will be in the long term absolutely a failure and cost the people more in taxes or other forms to make back all the losses of that government income!
I spoke to a private liquor retailer in Edmonton and he told me that he, his wife and their children all had to work in order to be able to provide a roof over their head and food for their table. He said they are worse off than before they got into the business. There is too much competition for anyone to make a decent living. His store is on one street corner and directly across the street on the opposite corner is another store. He said he and the other store owner compared notes and found out that they were as badly off as his family is. They can't afford to hire anyone and in order for them to maintain their sanity family members had to spell each other off and this prevents the children from pursuing careers of their own. I found this to be very sad and hence my answers to your survey reflect what I heard from someone in the business in Alberta. I fear for people who can't put away any savings for their retirement. This will force people to work until passing - what a sorrowfully awful future to look forward to! I strongly believe that maintaining Government Liquor Stores must be preserved so that working people can earn a living wage, besides there are plenty of outlets now and we certainly don't need more access to alcohol. Our province is already struggling with alcoholism and families in destitution because of easy access to alcohol. Providing more easy access to alcohol by an act of Government would be ignoring a current problem and adding fuel to the problem creating a vicious cycle of poverty, FASD and FAS. Let's try harder to reduce this dreadful situation instead of indirectly encouraging it. The Government must create an environment where people may thrive instead of worrying about providing more access to alcohol so that people slip more quickly into oblivion caused by consuming alcohol.
Government liquor stores provide good jobs with decent pay and benefits. Many other retail business stores, including grocery

stores and private liquor stores do not provide the same level of compensation to their employees.
Biggest concern is self righteous unions.
Privatization of all future retail outlets makes good sense. Current retail locations that are not profitable should be closed, or possibly allowed to privatize. Loss of government jobs shouldn't be a concern as displaced employees would have the option to avail their knowledge and experience in privately owned outlets replacing government owned outlets.
Keep as is
I appreciate the improved selection and refrigeration of private stores, but there is a clear bias to not "investing" in government liquor operation. There isn't really much of a mention of the income generated by operating liquor stores. If it's a worthwhile money-maker, it's a good investment.
The sale of liquor, and other previously owned Crown Corp products, should remain in the hands of the crown corps, rather than being privatized. The government who proposes the privatization of the crown corps will not only lose my vote, but my mothers, fathers, and husbands. Do not touch the crown corps.
This survey is skewed to provide the answers that the government seeks. The background info also skews the same way. Shame on you. I am completely 100% against privatizing liquor sales in the province. There is no more profitable business than liquor sales and for the government to be opening up this profit to corporations is completely wrong. Private companies would not be clamoring to get into the business if it wasn't a money maker. To be comparing Saskatchewan to other provinces is also wrong...if I wanted to live in other provinces, I'd live there. I am in favor of expanding the government retail system to provide more choices to consumers but not at the expense of government jobs and revenue to the province.
If Government run stores can't even install refrigeration units for cold beverages then they shouldn't be in the business of retailing.
Liquor should be treated like any other product. More competition and less regulation lowers prices and improves choice to consumers. Sale of liquor in Saskatchewan should resemble that of Arizona, USA.
The beer selection in government liquor stores is quite poor compared to other provinces and the US. I would support the expansion of selection in government stores over private stores, but that does not realistically seem like it will happen so I support private stores.
. I cost is the problem the government can lower it at will right now.
Time to step out of the dark ages.
Private liquor retailing is what I would like to see in Saskatchewan, the same as Alberta.
The current system is a cash cow for the government. It enables the government to direct profits to health care, seniors and other social needs. Keep things the way they are - don't give it away.
After having purchased liquor in Alberta many times, I find private stores disappointing. Generally, they are smaller and lack adequate product selection. Also, prices for the same items can vary greatly from one store to the next. The system that we have in place in Saskatchewan presently is the best of both worlds. Consistent pricing and selection with private stores offering a different experience for those consumers looking for more refined or specialty products. Private stores should only be built in new areas and the density of new stores should be limited.
Government should maintain its revenues through taxation, not through ownership where it becomes complicit in the social problems of alcohol. These issues should be addressed through education not through public ownership. What gives the government the right to set the selection of wines and alcohol I may purchase? Government has no competence to make that decision as is apparent from the quality of information offered by the government liquor board store staff. The choices available from private liquor offerings in other parts of the world are far more civilized than those available from Saskatchewan government liquor board stores. In Australia buying cheese and bread in a small store I can also buy wines that fit with the purchase. In Portugal in a small village grocery store I can buy thirty year old port. The list of better liquor sale service, choice and price from around the world is endless.
I would like to see the same system as Montana.
Fully support privatizing liquor retailing.
Taking away the cash flow from the employees of the government stores and putting it into a private hands is a bad idea. The jobs would be replaced with minimum wage workers with out benefits and putting all the profit in to one private persons hands.

Tell me the up side. All I see is a greater cost to the government.
Alberta Style - fully private retail system is the way we should go
I know many individuals that drive to alberta to buy beer because it is cheaper.
Privatization of liquor stores is an obscenity. Workers deserve a living wage for work. Workers deserve full time hours. The people of Saskatchewan deserve to have all profits for liquor sales to go toward public endeavours such as road repair, health care etc.
The most important is that a Government liquor store is, in my view, more likely to refuse a sale to a person who is already drunk. You need a new proofreader: 'franchise' is misspelled as 'francise' on the first screen. I can proofread: use me!
This is like any other government survey.....answers can be interpreted to swing either way. What's next to be privatized? will leave us in financial ruin when he is done, just to help private business make money. Did you see the latest food bank usage statistics? Maybe you should focus on why there are so many people using food banks in our province. Maybe putting alcohol on every street corner available 24-7 is not what we need right now. I haven't heard Brad on the radio lately bragging about how we are a "have province" lately....first we had money to burn...now things are tight....what a Joke. Why bother with a survey you already know what you want to do. Oh yeah cause when things go bad you can blame the public. You are supposed to make the decisions and stand by the outcome. Grow some!
Which ever direction the Government goes I want it to be the direction that makes the most revenue for the Government.
Saskatchewan should really consider keeping up with the times and getting rid of its backwards convoluted laws. This is the only province I've ever lived in that has left me feeling perturbed at times and almost sometimes acts as a hinderance to the freedoms such as alcohol purchases that I would want to partake in. Limited availability of one of the few things that keeps people sane in this province has got to stop. No more limited liquor board hours resulting in monopoly on the behalf of offsales to set whatever ridiculous pricing they want.
More selection and lower price.
should be privatized for better prices and we should have a greater selection of types of liquor in a specific area..eg: more kinds of black rum..better selection of single malt scotches...
Leave it the way it is
I think Saskatchewan has a great opportunity to reform liquor retailing in the province in a progressive way. A true opportunity to lead the country as retailers and educators on this industry exists. As a professional working in a premier capacity in this industry internationally, there is a cautious way to proceed but a great opportunity for public interest. I would be happy to discuss my ideas further should anyone have any interest in my detailed thoughts. I manage () in London,UK, widely celebrated, and awarded, as the best wine retail experience in the world. I am from Saskatoon, with my family still living there, and also owning property in the city. I regularly return to the city to conduct private wine tastings for residents of the province.
Profits from liquor stores can go toward repairing roads, schools(not P3's), better Hospitals(forget lean concept)...etc.
There should only private liquor stores in Saskatchewan. Period. The government owned store have terrible service and no product knowledge and the selection is terrible
I don't see the purpose of privatizing when government is going to control price! Do it right once and get out of the liquor industry.
Mr Klein proved in Alberta that the private model works. More selection, more competitive prices, more jobs and government revenue. The governments mark up could actually go down and the revenue from the sale of liquor would go up due to increased selection for the consumer. It's troubling to see Alberta restaurant prices in Saskatchewan stores. This market is ready for a better consumer experience. That means lower prices and more selection. Let the market decide where and when retail outlets are open.

Private stores are a very good option. Governments should not be in the retail business. SLGA should be a regulatory agency and ensure that the rules are followed and the taxes are collected.
stop the price gouging...higher prices for social reasons is absurd...if that was the case than all prices would be the same, no matter the brand!!!!
Keep pricing down. Privatization seems to have an affect of higher prices when applied fully. I like what you are doing, slow and steady, keep them to a minimum.
I think liquor sale should NOT be regulated by the government.
No questions regarding the youth who would likely be able to buy from non government services much more easily. Increased problems for policing, driving and drinking which we lead the nation in. Insurance rates, violence all likely to increase.
I grew up in a small town in Alberta with 3 dedicated liquor stores and 2 offsales. It seemed strange when I moved to Saskatoon when I had to drive for 15 min to reach a liquor store and they had such limited hours. I am glad to see Saskatchewan shifting to increase accessibility.
Private liquor store owners will just follow the Sask. Party practice of . They will sell their booze slightly lower than the SLB stores and pay their employees a fraction of the wage of SLB workers. This will, in turn, create a huge benefit to the private dealers by getting more customers than the SLB. This would have the SLB losing money, which our tax dollars will have to boost. And it'll all snowball from their, in the end, (what the Sask Party stands for) the rich get richer, and the poor get poorer.
Liquor retailing should remain in the purview of the people of Saskatchewan (government). The suggestion that by getting out of liquor retailing the government would have more resources for education and healthcare is so misleading that it makes me question the motives of the people who put it in this survey. Operating the liquor retailing business in Saskatchewan is revenue positive for the people of the province, so don't pretend otherwise. Let's base future actions on what's best for the citizens of the province, not ideology.
The Alberta Taxpayers association estimates the Alberta Government would have taken in approximately 3/4 of a BILLION Dollars more if liquor sales had stayed government owned. The Saskatchewan Government is totally delusional if they think they will receive as much or more money by privatizing stores. This government will be losing millions of dollars a year with private stores. This government is using totally unreasonable and illogical political ideology to justify a privatizing agenda. Privatizing is destroying this province. I have been in several private stores in Alberta and the selection is terrible. Lloydminster is an excellent example. There used to be one large government store where you could find anything you were looking for. Now there are approximately 20 small outlets, all with a very limited selection. There are 4 or 5 products I used to purchase in the government store which I have been unable to find in any of the private stores. They do not have the space to carry anything but the most popular products.
This is simply another product which happens to be regulated. Currently tobacco is regulated but sold privately. Cars are regulated but sold privately. Pharmaceuticals are regulated but sold privately. What is so special about alcohol that the government needs to be the retailer of the product?
You said that you were going to operate a private/public system similar to BC. Then this comes out? Why are you changing the rhetoric? Seems like a government that lacks direction and has a mandate to make mistakes...again... Mr.Wall!!!!
As a society we do not need cheaper or more readily available liquor. A private store that sells ONLY the very expensive or rare products some wealthy people might be interested in would be okay, but we do not need people driving drunk to the local convenience store at midnight to "pick up" because they know it is open and available. I feel it is just another attempt by the government to get rid of unionized jobs and give more profit to large businesses. Why would we sell the goose that regularly lays golden eggs? Especially in a time when gov't oil revenues seem like they might be on their way into the "tank".
I am a federal employee and I am for keeping liquor stores gov't run. I feel an employee trained is more knowledgeable than any private person would be. Also the money the gov't make off the sales goes to things needed. Even with regulations there will be a fluctuation in pricing and service from a private retailer. I believe keeping it with the gov't will be safer and smarter.
Look to Alberta as a guideline, they have developed a system that seems to be working just fine.
I believe this will move Saskatchewan away from the nanny mind set regarding liquor regulations.
I think the way the some of the questions are worded is very misleading.
In Alberta, the problem started with the government employees wanting more and more money so that the profit was going down. Here, so far, there doesn't seem to be that problem. You can't allow too many private stores and still keep the

government ones...the profit will go way down.
I like our government ones. They have selection and stock!
The government keeps talking about all the money spent building liquor stores that could be spent somewhere else. At the very least it's misleading or a lie. The government doesn't build liquor stores, they lease them. With private liquor stores the overall average price of booze will not go down. The question I asked myself is; do I want Sobeys to fill their pockets or do I want working class people to have a decent paying job that they can raise families on working at a SLG store?
Private stores would help reduce high staff wages and pension plans
Costco will have cheap liquor....in TWO cities. The rest of the province will be subjected to greedy private operators. SLGA sells a 24 pack of Pilsner cans for \$39.99. The local "private" retailer sells it for \$50.75. Figure it out. Brad Wall is delusional in believing HIS party is responsible for the "boom" of this province. It would have happened irregardless of who was in power....too bad Mr Wall doesn't realize that. Also, the SLGA stores don't sell to minors....the local off sales don't ID their customers because they want/need the sale. Keep things the way they are.
I live in central Saskatchewan and work in the oil patch around Bonnyville, AB. The small retailer (local hotel) in Saskatchewan has been great, bringing in product specifically for me. Prices are better for spirits in Alberta (my favorite Scotch is \$125 in Sask and \$99 in Alberta). If Saskatchewan could add the private industry with the ensuing competition in pricing that Alberta has, it would make the Saskatchewan experience much better.
I am a strong supporter of government run liquor stores. This is one of the few jobs for women in rural areas that pay well. We are often told that women are important, but actions speak louder than words. Taking away safe, well paying jobs sends a strong message that women are not a priority. Also a worker making a decent wage pays taxes back to the province as well as having more money to spend locally. If a woman has to work at a private liquor store for minimum wage there is a loss to the province and the local economy. I often hear that we would have greater selection if it were private. In Lloydminster there is at least 20 private stores on the Alberta side and one on the Saskatchewan side. The prices in the SK store are competitive and have a great selection as well as offering excellent customer service. The only private places that would be able to offer a large selection are the big chains like Sobeys. Their money does not stay in the province as their headquarters are usually out of province or out of country and they most likely get a tax exemption from the government. Small retailers would be unable to bring in the large selections and would only offer the popular items that Saskatchewan govt carries anyway. Also, I take issue with this survey. It is poorly constructed and worded to either confuse people or it implies that investing in the liquor stores "takes away" from health care. The profits from the liquor store go to the province that can be then spent on health care. Are you implying that SLGA is debt ridden and costing the government money? This is contrary to public record that SLGA consistently makes a profit. Privatizing gives nothing back to the province but less quality, poorer wages and less worker protection.
I wish that your questions were not so biased, You have obviously already decided to give your buddies more money in the form of allowing them to sell booze.
Do not privatize!!
I would like to see government out of retailing totally.
i welcome the alberta style
Plain and simple...DO NOT PRIVATIZE LIQUOR STORES OR ANY OTHER CROWNS
If the revenue from liquor stores is lost it would be a shame considering all the harm liquor still does in our communities. The funds provided by public liquor stores offsets the burden it places on our healthcare system.
We are losing out on sales to Alberta. Our prices are too high and there are never "sales". If the government doesn't give the private stores the ability to set their prices then what's the point?
I fully support the current system. A mix of public, private, franchises and off sales. I don't agree with the Alberta model where there are lots of small private liquor vendors. I like our current model where we have some good sized private stores in suburban areas. And public stores in areas such as downtown, 8th Street, Lawson Mall in Saskatoon. We already have a significant problem with alcohol related crime. If we make it even more accessible that will only rise. It's alcohol! I think if we really want it we can make an effort to go to a proper liquor store to get it.
It would be great to be able to get liquor at the place where you buy your groceries. I feel the wages for the gov't liquor stores is too much, which fuels the price of the liquor being sold. More competitive pricing should be allowed through private business.
I have not seen any savings in my pocket from the government selling off any of the government bussiness. so why are we selling off sask government companies?
Generally speaking - I think Saskatchewan has an old/archaic outlook on its liquor laws. The other provinces with much more relaxed laws and with more private stores (which helps in keeping costs down) don't have any of the "social" issues that we

seem to think are going to devastate our province if we change.
SLBS is a great service. It provides a great product while generating profit and good quality jobs for our citizens. I do not feel that the province should support the replacement of these jobs with minimum wage no benefit jobs. We are well served with the stores we have now. Also we do not need to encourage more consumption with the placing of outlets in grocery store and gas stations as in other provinces. We are not like other provinces! We need to promote responsible consumption not encourage more consumption with enhanced accessibility. I am not nor never have been employed by SLBS nor either have any of my extended family been employed by SLBS. Please keep our Crowns intact.
Although I am liberal politically (even a social democrat), I am strongly opposed to the government selling drugs, including alcohol. Regulate, yes. Tax, yes. But sell, no.
This is the just about the worst survey I have ever participated in. Instead of gathering data it is designed to guide the participant towards a pre-determined conclusion. There is zero validity in this survey, but it is pretty much what I expect from this government. I would imagine that non-supportive data will just be thrown out anyway. This isn't the Saskatchewan I know and love.
Would LOVE To see a private liquor store in Evergreen!!!
I do not support privatization of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan, such as Sobeys (Saskatoon).
In my opinion the purpose of government is to govern and regulate society. Government should never run any business. Therefore the sooner all crown corporations are privatized the better.
The private model resulted in numerous small liquor stores in Alberta where selection is poor and prices are higher and a few large liquor stores like Superstore where prices are lower but where selection is also limited. I am in favour of continuing current policy of maintaining government stores and new stores can be private.
I know a lot of people go to Alberta or the States to get their alcohol so I think if the price of alcohol was cheaper here then in the end we would make more money because people would get their alcohol here.
leave it as Status quo. there are other things that should be dealt with. roads,hospital waiting lists, the news report this morning about all the people using food banks.
I think it is time for the government to divest itself from liquor sales. As far as I am concerned purchasing liquor is the same as purchasing food and clothing. Not that it is a necessity, but rather it is just another purchase that we choose to make or not. As far as a moral obligation, the government is not there to dictate how we live our lives.
I think it is very important NOT to privatize our crown corporations.
System seems OK as it is.
Limit the amount of private retail stores. Alcohol is taxed way too heavily and it should not be used to raise taxes to fund other programs. That is a hidden tax and does no one any good. Let those programs fund themselves out in the open in a transparent manner.
For my taste, the selection of alcohol products is adequate in existing stores. I agree with private outlets where population numbers does not justify a gov't outlet. I would be worthwhile to survey AB outlets to get an appreciation of employee income vs cost of living. The opportunity for an adequate, stable income of Sask population is important regardless of business entity.
I'm glad that you have opened the conversation, however I would like to see more movement on this than a survey that's slated to last over a year. As a born Albertan, and now a full fledged resident of Saskatchewan, I have had the pleasure of experiencing the positive change our economy has seen under the Saskatchewan Party; the growth,the diversity and the opportunity. We are (albeit slowly) moving toward a more free market structure and I think liquor is one area that would benefit from this. I live in Warman, so access to alcohol is limited at best - one franchise and one offsale. I think there is abundant opportunity for a privatized store here, which would support the surrounding trade area. I'd love the opportunity to chat about this more with my MLA, or the minister in charge of pushing this initiative forward; because it is only a matter of time before this moves forward. Regards,

option 3 is were my support would be.
I will support whichever store offers me the best selection of different beers and wines. The slga stores are extremely behind in offering a great selection of craft beer, and very little that it's refrigerated. This is where the private locations are my preferred locations. Price it's also important, but selection is the most important factor for me.
We can be so backwards sometimes. we really need to get with the times with our liquor laws in this province.
The Govt can easily maintain their revenue because the Govt controls the wholesale market. If the Govt gets out of selling to the end user and simply supplies the private retailer they will make the same if not more money and the customers will benefit for we will have better selection and service.
I believe that alcohol kills more people than tobacco. More retailers and easier access to alcohol would up the number of deaths. Rarely does a cigarette kill more than one person all at once. As the cost of alcohol wouldnt change much leave the stores government owned and change what's available etc.
Alberta system still sends you to a separate store. Go to Europe, U.S., Mexico, and more and you purchase alcohol like other consumer items. Be AHEAD of the curve, allow alcohols ales in the supermarket.
I do not think that privatizing liquor stores is a good idea. Not sure why the government likes to have the profit's leave and have more low paying job's in the community. Really is a disconnect. I'm sure we could hire people to run the government cheaper then the elected officials, maybe we should consider"privatizing" this as well? We could have the profit's go for "other" thing's. Totally nonsensical in a province where we are basically having a race to the bottom for good paying job's with pensions.
I like the Alberta model
I'm ok with the current mix of private/public and would be willing to even see a small expansion of private, but I'm concerned a full privatization would cut into government revenue. SLGA is the biggest cash transfer to the government provided by all the crowns and it would be bad for all of Saskatchewan if that went down.
If liquor sales gets slowly privatized on a selective basis, then the impact of private liquor sales can't be reliably measured because this isn't a free market.
I strongly disagree with the further privatization of liquor stores in Saskatchewan. Profits should go to the province to fund other services rather than private individuals and companies.
The government doesn't sell any other product. Why should it sell liquor? The social harms aspect is immaterial. Government doesn't retail cigarettes so why should it retail alcohol?
Let's get out of the stone age. We aren't a bunch of animals that are going to break out into anarchy with cheaper booze prices. Also I dont think our tax dollars should be paying for the government liquor store workers high wages to stock shelves and run the till. It's all of our tax dollars paying these people. If this was your own business would you really want to pay someone these ridiculous wages? I think not. It's not a smart business choice and the government has us all hostage to these high prices due to the wages they have set.
Government does not need to be and should not be in the retail liquor business. Let's stop being prudes and join the rest of the world in this regard. If we learned anything from the days of Prohibition in the US, it is that liquor should not be so "controlled".
It's time for the government to treat its citizens as adults.
I would not want taxes (property or otherwise) to go up if the private sector starts selling more liquor. It is important for the government to make money from liquor sales so they are able to put it towards other things such as health. How much would the payout cost for all the employees be if they are to lose their jobs? How much does it cost to keep the current system going? It is very hard to pick one system over the other as you do not give any financial impact numbers. I do not want to see liquor sold outside of liquor stores as this would most likely create more under age drinking. I also think that cigarettes and cigars should only be sold in liquor stores as many under aged children are able to obtain cigarettes easily.
Typical government, claim they have no plans to privatize anything when they are campaigning and then go ahead and do it when they get elected. Privatization does not benefit pricing to the consumer. When I was a teenager the liquor in AB was always cheaper than SK this was before they privatized their liquor stores. Now liquor in AB is equal or more expensive than SK. The same will happen in SK when stores are privatized.....and yes I say when because I know you have already decided to move forward with it! Disgusted!!

I would like to see Saskatchewan follow in Alberta's footsteps.
The government should not have a role in policing the sale of alcohol other than to ensure stores are not selling to minors. We are no longer in a prohibition era, let's get into this century and allow adults to make their own choices. "Sin tax" needs to be removed...this is not a deterrent to those who are being targeted and just punish responsible adults with excessive prices. Dependency issues must be fought through proper social programming, not price inflation. Definitely want to see local producers have a chance to market their product and sell it directly to consumers. Also want to see all the barriers to inter-provincial trade removed completely on alcohol.
Europe is a great example of how I would like liquor retailing in Saskatchewan to become.
Cost is too high compared to Alberta and U.S.
Government regulated store need to come down in pricing. Be more comparable to Alberta or the USA for example
Please keep our liquor store employees employed. They earn a decent living, they can afford to raise a family, and they spend their money in the communities they earn it in. If you choose to sell these Liquor Stores, you will be turning these jobs into part-time low wage jobs, and the workers will have to work two or three jobs to make ends meet. Please keep the money in our communities. I am totally ok with any store selling in the same fashion as the off-sale stores.
I think sk should start giving the option to grocer to sell alcohol in their store. With a permit of course and regulation.
I can buy a bottle of wine in the states for 3-6.00. That same bottle of wine costs 21.00 here. That is even when the dollar is doing well. Ridiculous. When the supporters of government run liquor stores say that the revenue will no longer be in the government's coffers please point out to them the millions of dollars you make off the tax on booze. Ridiculous Why on earth does the government get to decide what wine is available in the province. That is beyond ridiculous
I'm all for privatisation of liquor sales, but I strongly believe that the contracts should go to locally owned businesses, rather than national or international corporate stores. The profits should stay in Saskatchewan, for the benefit of Saskatchewan people.
I think the survey had extremely leading questions to "get the answers" the Sask Party wants to hear. Where is pre-survey info that explains how much revenue is currently generated by the LBS and how this money is allocated to other sectors? How much revenue does the government suggest will be generated with privatization? There are still many questions that the government website failed to address. I am actually quite miffed as to why privatization of LBS is seen as a platform issue. Seriously!?!
There have been many improvements to government owned stores in recent years. I believe the majority including improved selection, price, store layouts, refrigeration etc, are mostly the result of the threat of private competition. Private stores are still too restricted in what they can stock and what they can charge, that should be a market decision not a regulatory one. Private stores meet the needs of an evolving market government stores, for the most part, do not. I don't feel there is any reason to close government stores but I don't agree with opening new ones either. The Market will dictate, over time, what role each of the current choices will provide. If someone feels they can make a living opening a Whiskey only store in Pumphandle Sk they should be allowed to try it....liquor taxes are collected, property taxes paid... no harm no foul. I agree with Government distribution but also with limited ability to buy direct from smaller, mainly Canadian, producers for wine, beer and spirits. Local governments/ communities should have a say in availability, hours, locations etc. if they choose to restrict it for some reason that should be their prerogative.
Stop monopoly. Competition is great for business owners and for the public. We should follow Alberta's model of liquor sales. The government can keep some regulations and some revenue, but they do not need to be in the liquor business.
From what I see travelling to different countries and provinces, it seems very unfair when the pricing of alcohol in Sask is so highly priced/taxed. Privatization means the owner should be one determining the prices not the government. I would rather spend the money in Sask but when I do a price comparison on the purchase of alcohol by travelling elsewhere, I will land up making a road trip and a holiday with the difference in money. I don't believe that the gov't needs to have a 130% + markup on alcohol.
The ideal system would be one in which there was increased selection, lower prices generally but established minimums, continued revenue for the provincial government, and elimination of money-losing government stores. Figure it out!
Gov shouldn't be in the business of creating government jobs to sell liquor in the SGEU store.
i what choice good price privet stores should be able to buy booze at the same price that governor store buy it at
Being in a rural community I feel that the costs of alcohol will rise if it becomes a privately owned business here. Which might be a good thing in general making it tougher for some people to buy it; but on the other hand all that this would cause would be

those who could not afford it would steal from others in the community to make sure they had the monies to purchase alcohol. I think it should be left as it is and that the government should look at making more of the essentials of life more affordable to people of the north. The cost of food is rising so much that families here are not knowing what to do when they shop, they can not afford to feed their families. Why change something that isn't broken!
It just doesn't make sense to continue government run liquor stores. The employees range from disinterested to downright rude. Their wages, benefits and pensions are costing the government money. I hate to say it, but it almost creates a divide: why should someone doing the same job but in a more dangerous situation at an offsale in Regina deserve less pay, benefits, etc. than someone working at a government run offsale in the same city? Our province needs to operate like Alberta's in regard to offsale. I want to be able to buy a case of expensive wine at Costco and save money.
Fully privatize the industry. The government does not have to be in the retail business.
I believe government regulation is essential to ensure revenue from alcohol sales benefit our communities and that we are better able to regulate the availability and mitigate the harmful social impacts that come with alcohol consumption.
I see all the time on tv that the biggest push back is from the unions, not the average citizen .
Allow more private liquor stores and the selling of liquor in grocery stores. Government run liquor stores need a wider selection of alcohol. For example, beers and spirits that are available in the United States should be sold here
I don't necessarily believe that price can be directly responsible for social harm when it comes to alcohol consumption. I compare it to the saying "guns don't kill people, people kill people". We need to focus more on how people's values are being established (ie: children) through better social programs rather than trying to use hot button topics as scapegoats. The idea that making liquor cost more to save society from itself implies that only poor people are prone to getting drunk and making bad decisions/harming themselves or others, which is absolutely not true. As far as whether government should continue to operate retail stores, I believe that economically viable stores should stay open and in government control until such time as they are no longer viable. It is well known that by nature, government operations simply cost more to operate because of inherent inefficiencies that are, for a number of reasons, part and parcel with government bodies. Bureaucracy and unionization are two good examples of why government stores cost more to operate than they should. A lack of financial accountability and feeling of ownership are another two big reasons - why be worried about the bottom line when there's a big reserve to pull extra funds from when needed? Those using the budgets inefficiently rarely ever feel connected to the fact that those are their own tax dollars that they are nickel and diming away. Private companies know how to operate efficiently while retaining good employees. Government should be more involved in governing liquor sales, not operating them.
This issue should not be consuming as much time and energy in addition to cost in government resources to be able to decide what to do. In my mind, yes continue to operate the government stores which have proven to be very profitable and ensure that they remain so by keeping them up. That being said we as a province need to move to relax liquor regulations and begin to have any reputable stores sell liquor to the public. There is no reason why in this day and age that we cannot purchase liquor at a grocery store of my choosing. I do however believe that unless we get government out of the distribution side of the business we as consumers will never really see any major benefits other than having more locations to purchase liquor. Why is it that government needs to be the sole control of distribution of liquor? What our government is offering is like offering us one new shoe. Yes it we are somewhat better off, however would it ever make sense to only put one new shoe on??
The current policy regarding retail pricing policy in Saskatchewan should be changed to the policy in Alberta. Stores in Calgary from the checking I've done may have products from 30 to 40% cheaper to 25% more expensive than in Saskatchewan. The market place should determine which pricing policy will succeed and ultimately which stores stay open.
Keep the SLGA public!!! A stupid idea to give taxpayer income to private pockets Mr Wall... Er
I think no matter how expensive booze is people who create public risk will find a way to get it.
I do not want to see increasing privatization. Simply visit, for example, Grand Prairie, Alberta, and see how the streets are lined with private establishments with names such as "Honest Ed's Cheap Booze," or "Bill's Discount Beer," and ask yourself if this is the kind of environment you'd want your kids to live in. It's not for me. Besides, the SLGA is a profitable venture; couching the situation otherwise by stating you could invest the money elsewhere is not, frankly, honest, in my opinion. Thank you for your interest. p.s. - some of your survey questions appear designed to skew results.
get out of the retail business, and let the private sector operate it.
I believe we should keep the stores government owned. If we privatize now, we make some quick money. But what happens to the lost revenue in the long run? Also, what happens to the hundreds of employees currently employed by SLGA? These employees are always knowledgeable when I have questions about different products. If you go into an off sale, you have some

grubby looking fellow, locked in a glass enclosure. You have to slip the money through a hole in the glass. No, that is definitely not the experience I want when purchasing liquor. I have visited Alberta with their private stores too...same grubby person, just a different province. When will privatization stop? We can't continue to rely on the volatile oil and gas industry. Residents of our province will always need a phone (Sasktel), insurance (SGI), power (SaskPower), energy (Saskenergy)....We need to be able to sustain our province in the long run....not only the short term!
The options as listed in the the Leader Post are loaded towards privatization. Option 5 states "selection largely determined by government". Any time I wanted something not carried it was ordered by the liquor stores, if available. Sask has a small population and no private or public liquor store can carry everything. The private stores I have been in in Alberta and BC have been disgusting holes in the wall, some even have the doors locked so I had to be buzzed in and buzzed out. Also I found the service, attitude and appearance of the employees at the private stores to be far below the SLGA stores. The selection was small and the prices were at least as much as Sask. Some change is needed to the existing system, such as easing of regulation so micro breweries and small distillers can expand. Another change appreciated would be kiosks in grocery stores. If Sask has a policy of controlling alcohol related social problems by high prices, how could private stores sell cheaper? I understand the UK is completely privatized but alcohol is as least as much as here. They also control social problems by price. Also how is the local economy helped by allowing places like Costco to export the profits out of province and country?
Having been too and lived in different areas of Canada, I feel the government is too focused on the profit in Saskatchewan over liquor sales. Quebec for example, a 24 case of beer is almost half the price of Saskatchewan and we picked it up at a grocery store. I like Convenience and affordability. I mean not one to drink much but if I do, I don't want to spend my weekend budget just on a case of beer. I would like to spend some of that on a meal out.
Consider making the legal drinking age to 21, more and more people are still in high school at 19 and are buying booze for their under aged friends. Plus they are going to the bars more and more who are under aged with fake ID. Make the laws more stiffer if caught etc. Need more accountability on these places who get caught. Most full license drivers are now 19-20, they are still a risk of driving after some drinks. This puts use sober and non- drinkers more st risk of being killed. Invest in later bus times or bus points of locations to drop people off at so they can walk home from those points etc. Thank you for your time.
The government makes more than enough money in taxes on booze,they don't have to build buildings to get more revenue.
Just PRIVATIZE!!!
I do not believe the government should be in ANY retail business. This is better left t the private sector where if a product will sell there will be competition in retailing. If the product will not sell why are we propping it up with tax payers monies.
You talk a lot about revenue, but what are the profit projections given the two different models private/public. As a researcher, this survey is the most biased and LEADING survey I've seen in a while. Its full of double barrelled questions, a VERY leading dichotomous question with no option for comments. This survey, even though it may be outsourced was very obviously influenced by the government.
Keep liquor stores public.
Having travelled to other places, provinces and countries where liquor is less regulated by government, it still strikes me as archaic that SK liquor is only able to be purchased via strict government controls. Revenue generated by liquor is of utmost importance, but that does not mean the government needs to be involved in the retailing of liquor, allow a competitive market. A private retail system, with the government as the wholesaler, is the best option. THere should be flexibility to have beer and wine in grocery stores/small businesses. In my experience, limiting the avaialability does not equal limiting consumption. One has to only drive around the grid roads of "dry" towns to see that the decision to severely limit alchohol in a community just drives the habit to unsafe places (vehicles). I also do not agree that a person has to be a government worker to be responsible for selling alcohol. When a persons livelihood is on the line they tend to follow the requirements. In general, bar and eating establishments properly check identification of patrons, why would a private liquor vendor be any different. Publicly operated liquor stores do not meet the needs of a growing, prosperous and discerning province. I strongly oppose continuing with the public operation of liquor stores. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
PRIVATE RETAILING ALL THE WAY!
In the UK private liquor stores (supermarkets) use alcohol as a major loss leader and easily available. This has led to widespread abuse and underage drinking. I feel that Saskatchewan has got "it" about right in its current regulations and outlets. Only exception. I find the active promotion of alcohol samples in government liquor stores to dangerously support drinking and driving. Government should be actively discouraging this activity- accidents and death rates from drunk drivers is already far too high- with resulting avoidable costs to the health service (and taxpayers).
If the liquor stores go public...where is the revenue that existing government liquor generate going to come from????

Government should focus more on providing living wages for the people of Saskatchewan instead of profits for private sector. Both are important but complete privatization will remove good paying jobs from rural communities (which benefit many through purchasing and taxation) and send more of our money out of the province as profit for non resident businesses (ie- sobey's)
I believe government run liquor stores should remain as they are. There would be a significant loss of jobs if this were to change and the revenue from these government run stores is important. Private is not necessarily better by any means.
Government needs to be out of the liquor business. Put this in the Ganda of the private sector. Collect your taxes and leave it at that.
I strongly agree that the government should not be in the liquor business. No there won't be any jobs that pay \$30 an hour to stock shelves, but there will be 3 times as many jobs at \$20 an hour in the private sector. I was in Alberta during the transision from government stores to the private sector and like any other province or state, they've never regret making the transision. The consumer will definitely benefit from this also by having better selection, price and service. The government will also benefit by like mentioned,investing in other important sectors like, healthcare or education or roads. Also the government will make more money collecting tax then paying the exorbant wages we pay government employees and especially for stocking shelves and pushing buttons on a till. We can't lose by making the transition.....
keep liquor stores public
I support the privatization of sales however not certain we need them in grocery stores etc. I've witnessed the 10 AM crowd waiting to enter the liquor stores already intoxicated and don't think I'd like to see these same people wandering in my grocery store. With liquor stores and franchises there is ample opportunity to plan for liquor purchases.
1. I would like the government to continue collecting the same revenue from the sales of alcohol and re-investing it back in our province. 2. I find the prices at private stores in Alberta are actually more expensive but they offer cheaper options of far less quality. (e.g. A case of Saskatchewan's favorite beer Pilsner costs more in Alberta but they have endless varieties of cheap, foul-tasting beers which are popular for alcoholics and kids.) 3. The private stores I have visited in Alberta seem very seedy and shady. I would not want one of these stores in my town or area of residence. The level of professionalism and product knowledge is far higher at our Saskatchewan stores than the private stores I have been to.
Anyone who ever has bought alcohol in Alberta sees the value in privatized liquor stores. There is no variety in Saskatchewan and the prices are higher. It should not be controlled by the government since the government is doing such a terrible job meeting the needs of the customer. If it is privatized the owners will take an interest in having a better variety to meet the customers needs.
Privatization will happen eventually. I would suggest the govt take this opportunity to observe what's happens when the changes are made . You have other crowns now that will suffer very severely from this , whereas the liquor retail outlets will adjust relatively smoothly.
I recently visited Edmonton and made a stop at "Wine & Beyond". I had no idea what we were missing out on... we definitely need more businesses like this. Their selection and knowledge was unmatched by anything i've seen here in Sask
Long over due that the gov't get out of the retail sales of liquor. Let the private sector compete. It will be fine!!
Considering that all public liquor stores contribute money towards the government to spend on the province, there is no benefit to closing public stores. If public stores are closed the you would be increasing taxes to everyone to make up the difference in revenue. Maybe its time to start looking at other areas to better the province rather than privatization. You would cost many people jobs, mine one of them. I will be voting NDP come next election!
We don't have enough specialty wine and beer options and if you want to order anything specially from the slga the format to do so is completely ridiculous. There is no consistency, our system doesn't work with other places in the world. It's archaic and needs to be revamped, I'd love to do it for you. You make it so hard.
I like the fact that my government liquor store has different options that I don't believe a private will have due to the fact that profit comes first and they will bring in only what sells and what has the best profit.
I have two thoughts on the matter: 1) My government does not belong in retail. There is no need for a government to own/operate retail outlets. 2) Liquor does need to be heavily regulated. The private sector can do this (they do with tobacco products). The revenues from mark-up and taxes are needed. That being said, if overhead is lower, ie not paying gov union wages for a cashier, then revenue should be maintained and prices should go down. This is a slippery slope, SK has a high instance of alcohol abuse, this comes at great cost to the health, social, and criminal justice sectors - we don't need rock bottom prices. We certainly don't need a

liquor mart on every corner either - geographic regulations are needed.
I don't want my children seeing a bunch of liquor everywhere we go.
I don't see any problem with the way things are now. If it isn't broke , don't fix it.
We wish to keep government liquor stores and no expansion of private stores.
Private stores if and when necessary but let them be the exception, not the rule. Please maintain public control of liquor sales in the province.
government keep out be like alberta
I don't believe liquor sales should be government regulated. I also feel that the ability to have liquor in grocery stores should be an option. Right now there isn't much convenience in the sale of liquor.
You would think that this should have been put to the public before becoming an option for the government in which we elect. All the money being lost for health care and children sports where will that come from yet another increase in public taxes. I would think Not we pay enough as is,I believe this is the one crown corp that should stay private!!!!!!
Retailers should be able to have their products shipped direct to them rather than having to ship to Regina and then re-shipped. If the unions want to maintain the Government liquor stores, let them buy some themselves. I have no problem with the union going into business.
Government should not be involved in the sale of liquor. Employees are paid high wages for little responsibility. Despite what union members say they are not more careful about underage people getting liquor from the government run stores. I have seen this first hand. Government should regulate but private should own these businesses.
Do not change what we have.
I do not think that the issue of privatizing liquor retail should be framed in terms of (a) Government income and (b) avoidance of social harm. Regarding (a), the Government of Saskatchewan has a wide range of tools it could apply to maintain present levels of income from liquor sales, the most obvious of which being taxation. Regarding)b), I remain unconvinced that social harm and liberalization of liquor laws can be rigorously shown to be correlated. This notion would seem to be rooted more in prohibitionist ideology than in fact. For example, can it be shown that crime statistics, prevalence of alcoholism, etc., have changed significantly as a result of abandonment of government liquor stores in, say, Alberta?
I should also state that I do not believe that government in general should be in the retailing business of anything. Our Province is growing, and our laws need to be adapted to the new realities of increasingly urbanized and educated populace.
more like alberta
Giving adults more choices on where they can buy liquor is an ideal situation. Putting that retail opportunity in reputable, comfortable settings (existing grocery/supermarket chains, department stores) rather than sketchy hole-in-the-wall locations would be preferred.
If over the course of time government owned stores are no longer a financially feasible enterprise, discontinuing the existing government-owned stores make sense. Until then, operating multiple streams for retail sale makes sense.
Having seen the effects of the availability of cheap supermarket liquor on the younger population I would urge the government to continue the current policy of government owned and operated liquor stores.
Government should only do what ONLY Government can do!
Government operated liquor stores are holding the consumer hostage. we are dictated to in terms of when and where to shop. As a consumer of alcohol I want to be able to make a purchase any time on any day.
Keep the liquor stores public. Don't sell things off for a quick buck, when recurring revenue streams will benefit the province.
Privatizing liquor sales means that Saskatchewan loses that revenue. Lets keep that money in the province to be used for better health care, education. Privatizing "everything" has rarely, if ever, led to "the greater public good".
More product selection!!!
Your mark-up, according to your website, is 52%, including both taxes. How do you justify this? Minimum prices? How about free market ideals.
It would be great if a store could sell both alcohol and mix, i.e. pop, orange juice, etc.
Like everything in Saskatchewan, Everything is so overpriced as is. Please allow full privatization with all out competition.
the price has no affect on health and well being of our province, that is just a sham for the government to make more off of "sin

Taxes"
In my opinion the government run stores make the province money, so why would you not continue or even expand that base of stores. As a business owner if my business is make money that is good for me and why would i not continue. I see the government wanting to get out of it and saying it would rather invest in schools and health care, they wont do that they are already building P3 schools which in reality they don't own. So keep our liquor stores public providing good jobs for people and leave the part time jobs that private stores would create to Tim Horton's and the Walmarts of the world. Thank You
Would like more access to liquor and lower prices; lived in Ontario and Alberta and they seem light years ahead of us on policy and provision of services.
I fully support liquor privitytization
We do need more inspectors to maintain and assure compliance. Possibly offload to municipal governments with funding from SLGA to cover all bylaw enforcement costs.
My largest issue is with government moderation of selection, ie. lack of variety in certain beverages (especially beer, hard liquors). Private retail stores excel at this and I don't see why the SLGA cannot also increase variety.
Availability of liquor isn't a huge issue in the larger cities but I do find the hours of operation and variety of product in my town (Weyburn) is often disappointing.
I like the idea that Manitoba and Ontario follow.
Ontario and Manitoba are opening new gov't run stores and are making capital investments. This investment is paid back in very few years. According to the info I read, costs are between 12-13% of revenue for Govt to operate large urban stores and cost to Govt is 16% to have these stores run privately. This is lost revenue to the Govt that could be used to invest in roads, education etc. Closing rural liquor stores and making them franchises would result in reduced product selection (min 100 sku's compared to 500 for Govt stores as per the info provided). It looks like it would save govt some revenue (13.6% cost for franchises compared to 19%). These percentages are on much lower revenues though, so dollar amount would not be enough to justify the lost selection in these communities. Do not close current franchises and turn them into govt stores, as these business's need this revenue as they are used to it. All new liquor stores based on population needs in urban centers should be govt owned and operated for social responsibility reasons and for maximum revenue generating reasons.
Yes i do off sales should be in a bar if there is no bar in these little comminutys the put in a grocery store or restraunt in these small comminutys the stores and restraunt close around 8 and if the bar dont have off sales person has to drive to the next comminuty and Unfortunately there impaired
I believe liquor sales shouldn't be monopolized by the Government or only awarded to large grocery store chains. The intent should be to put choice back in the hands of the consumer and allow entrepreneurs the opportunity to create wealth in their local communities. The social engineering side of liquor sales (Keeping a minimum price on liquor to keep over consumption down) has proven a failure and is in fact just a tax on the people of Saskatchewan. Allowing for a free market system on the pricing and sale liquor would not only increase investment in our province but allow people the opportunity to keep more money in their pocket or to spend on other consumer products. Please end the archaic liquor laws governing this great province.
I believe the government should get out of the liquor business. As far as regulation, I think limiting the number of stores may be prudent but price control should be decreased. Alberta privatized years ago and I do not believe the was an increase in social issues. Sask still has the highest number of DUI even with regulation. Maybe we should put more money into law enforcement to get the drunks off the road or into social programs to help people rather paying retail employees exorbitant union wages to flog booze.
government does not belong in business! nobody puts more effort into a business than a owner that has a financial intrest in how well it does.
As it stands now, I make ALL of my major liquor purchases in Alberta, I spend an average of \$1000/ year buying in Alberta for me and my family, this is money that I could be spending in my province, but as it stands why would I spend 20 to 30 dollars more on a product I can get way cheaper in Alberta? I drive semi for a living between Regina and Maple Creek and all I see is people coming back from Alberta with a load of groceries and liquour, so we need government OUT of the booze biz, and the SLGA needs to get out of the '20's mentallity and have less arcaic rules and regulations. Saskatchewan is loosing hundreds of thousands, if not millions in reveneu to Alberta, WHY? time to get the "communist" mentallity out of Saskatchewan. Thank you.
Public liquor stores should not be privatized and public stores should be allowed to sell refrigerated beer and other liquor just like off sale is allowed to sell hard liquor to allow it to be competitive
I believe that the Government run liquor stores should be maintained and expanded. The tax revenue derived from liquor sales

are better in the hands of government to better serve the needs of the Saskatchewan citizens. Privatizing liquor stores will result in the profits going to private business with no benefit to the citizens of the province. Giving up future lost revenue is very foolish.
Government and unions have no place in liquor sales. Get our prices down and selection up.
Have beer, wine and cooler sold in grocery stores and convenience stores but leave the liquor in venders and private stores ELIMINATE ALL GOVERNMENT LIQUOR STORE AND MORE VENDER AND PRIVATE STORES IN THE CITIES
Liquor sales are far too regulated, it is far too expensive. I don't believe that the price is set to keep people safer, it's for the huge profits. We just feel ripped off whenever we set foot in a liquor store.
I had my wedding in Saskatoon this past year and was forced to purchase our bulk alcohol for our toonie bar from SLGA rather than buy from Alberta for cheaper. The service we received from our local LB was unacceptable. We followed all of their rules when organizing our bulk order and when our wedding day came, they completely messed up our huge order and had none of the beer ready to go when we came to pick up, not the beer choices we had selected, and displayed no concern for our needs. To say the least, I will not support our government run LB's as there is zero accountability from their employees from my experience. I have since gone only to private stores in Sask (Co-op) and usually buy in bulk from Alberta and bring back for personal consumption. Please modernize Saskatchewan liquor laws!
My son has been in Calgary recently on work terms and says the whole idea that everything is cheaper is not true. If you want to drive around and comparison shop it might be but if you just go into a random store the price is usually the same and in some cases higher than here. Yes there are cheap places but not all place are cheap. Low end beers can be cheap but once you get into a higher quality of beer that is not the case. My own experience is that while overall selection is higher that doesn't mean every store has this huge selection that we don't get here.
I agree with more private stores I just do not want to see the franchises awarded to big time party supporters. Keep the politics out of it
I would support the privatization of Saskatchewan liquor stores, only if it would bring the pricing on par with other countries, such as the US. If pricing only drops by a dollar or two, then we might as well keep the government stores, so that the revenues stay within Saskatchewan, to be used to meet the needs of us taxpayers. Not help make just some other businessman rich, whom would run a business on a part time skeleton crew working for minimum wage and no health benefits.
Government Stores, in regards to overhead, is a cost that isn't necessary. Retail side is better handled by private companies and as long as the government controls the supply, the Government will actually make more profit. (Centralize operations supply operations, IE, purchasing etc.)
The present system has worked well over a long time. Private stores are in business to make a profit for their self or shareholders, not for the province or it's tax payers. The government wants to invest in other things, where will they get the money from if private keeps most of the money? Common Sense! Please use your brains and forget the privatization at all cost theory. Don't make another blunder like the movie industry fiasco!
I want to be able to buy a good bottle of wine without travelling 75 Kms. Our LB store at the lake closes at noon and closes early in the evening, no customer service at all!
Adopt the European mentality on access to liquor and how/where it is served. Allow restaurants to have open and permeable patios without fencing. The government should not have a role in protecting people from themselves, only when their actions negatively affect others.(eg. drunk driving, aggression, public endangerment)
Private competition is the best way to ensure the best service, product and overall experience when shopping for liquor.
It would be great to be able to purchase in costco, walmart, superstore!!
- Most employees of government run outlets are not well informed on actual products. In some areas, their major daily concern are those "unwanted patrons" who frequent and are banned from the store, and are loitering outside, causing trouble for other patrons. When in a smaller city, this may be the only place to purchase liquor, and it is unnerving to be female trying to get through a crowd of 6 males standing at the entrance asking people to buy liquor for them because they are banned from the store - and this particular store is directly across from the RCMP - who are not helpful in the situation. If privately owned, the owners would have more of a right to "police presence" in the situation. Right now, government owned land and building, any Sask resident has the right to be there. Privately owned may be safer for all those concerned. North Battleford is a terrible situation. For a female, it is best to go during daylight hours. The parking lot can be an issue, let alone the store itself. I've stopped at much smaller locations on the way to the lake, ie: Blaine Lake - without incident. Cochin. I would rather pay the

\$1 extra than go through the hassles of the city LBS. Many of the employees at Government Owned LBS are paid high wages, therefore some of this is included in the price passed on to the consumer. Consumer needs/wants are changing and LBS may need to go to "online and delivery" shopping available 24/7. The government should not be involved in trying to prevent people from drinking alcohol. That is a personal decision that should be left with the individual. (If legalized will there be a tax on marijuana to prevent addiction?) The current situation provides the alcoholic with way too many "nets" to catch them if they fall, and they continue to use those services. Some many times without success. All government owned companies should be disbanded and sold. The time for these "restrictions" of choice for Saskatchewanians is over. These government companies served their purpose, but no longer. Like privately run liquor stores, the consumer wants worldly choice, which is available to them online at a cost, they are willing to pay that cost right now for delivery. Many in Saskatchewan will have a case of wine shipped from BC, California because it is not available in the liquor stores here Why not change that to a cost that is recoverable to the province? Sell the current buildings and land and liquor stores outright to new owners. Sobeys new store in Saskatoon is much easier and safer to shop in and it is in a location that is available to the consumer who also needs to go get groceries, pick up their Rx at the pharmacy, and withdraw money from a bank. Many of the government owed outlets are on sidestreets or strip malls, not consumer friendly locations. (The parking lots at University Heights, and 8th Street East are a "nightmare"). I like that you can go to Costco USA and purchase your groceries, liquor (and in larger sizes for cheaper money) your rx, your new tv, etc. all in one location.
I think the liquor stores in Saskatchewan should not be privatized. It is a cash cow for province so why we would we want to change. It is a job that allows workers to maintain a good standard of living and lots of the wages go back to the community.
I do not believe that regulating availability controls or maintains consumption. Nor does price. Thoughts that want will find a way to get. Stiffer and harsher penalties for drinking and driving and public intoxication may help more.
Fix the liquor prices here in sask. and hundreds of people will stop going to alberta to re-stock. Our family made at least four trips this year alone and the savings probably was more than a thousand dollars so imagine how much revenue is lost from all the people that do the same thing.
I have travelled extensively throughout the world and firmly believe that we should follow the European model and emphasize the availability, privatization and deregulation of all alcohol products. The government should also not be in the wholesale business of these products and their involvement in alcohol sales should be limited to basic regulation policies (as for tobacco products). Let the marketplace decide.
The selling of alcohol is a VERY profitable business and the SK government should retain control over it so that the revenue from liquor sales can support health care, roads, sport and cultural activities etc. The main reasons that people complain about government run liquor stores are: 1). The store hours, 2). The liquor selection, 3) The location, 4) The price. All of these issues can be easily resolved within the framework of the government owning the stores. The government would be making a foolish decision to let go of this profit. Why do you think private companies are chomping at the bit to get a hold of a liquor store franchise.....liquor is liquid gold! Don't privatize the liquor stores. I can think of are hundred things that the revenue from liquor sales could be used for. ...like an overpass at the Martensville exit...
Move to an alberta style system of distribution and sales but do not have requirement for a seperate location. Have it in the stores like in the US. the seperate location is a silly requirement.
Expanded government retail network is the way to go. It can take the spaces in retail locations like the private stores do now, or in malls, without requiring so much input cost to set up locations. Take the LCBO as an example, which has more, smaller locations with fewer varieties, but greater accessibility, while a few stores specialize in certain areas or are large enough to have a wide selection.
Either option #1 or option #2 could benefit the customers and preserve government profits but government needs to keep a tight control on private stores, specially if option #2 is chosen and it's important to ensure that government employees would not be fired.
It makes no sense to be paying Government employees to stand at a till and sell liquor and stock shelves. These are wasted tax dollars and I would assume lead to some of the inflation we see in our liquor pricing compared to other provinces in Canada. Government intervention in controlling availability is weak as those with alcohol abuse illnesses can and will still obtain liquor today anyways. These issues have less to do with availability and more to do with illness. We don't have government employees selling groceries, stocking shelves and running a till - why are we holding liquor sales to a different standard?
I find product selection to be the biggest hindrance in what SLGA does. For the govt to limit the type/brand available is absurd. I strongly agree with SLGA rules and regulations regarding pricing and safety for the public, but to limit variety does not make sence. It's the number one reason lam against govt involvement in the buissness.
We must recall that the public system is much more affordable in terms of administration, advertising and marketing compared to private stores. What is more, the public system has a monopoly in purchasing power, compelling costs to be made

competitive. For example, Alberta has privatized their liquor stores, and prices are known to be much more expensive in comparison to Saskatchewan. But what is more important are the social harms that result from privatization. Good jobs are lost, and the money that should be going towards public services, such as Addictions in the Community Based Organization sector which are meant to counteract the social harms that result from alcohol consumption, well, that money goes into private hands (the few) as compared to society at large. Privatization needs to stop! We should be a province that others admire - not participating in the continual race to the bottom.
Governments should stick to their CORE activities and responsibilities and let others take the out of Government's Core like Selling Liquor. Government shall provide SOCIAL SERVICES to Citizen, not Selling products/services that are others CORE business. Using Taxpayers money to operate a non social service is completely wrong. Please focus in your CORE and do it with excellence.
Why would any government give up (according to the figures on this website) \$295 million? Any profit, no matter how small is still a profit. I've been to liquor stores in Alberta and, other than the price of beer, prices are pretty much the same as Saskatchewan prices. Don't forget that Alberta may have private liquor stores but they also have a health care fee that has to be paid by either the employer or the population, apparently depending on the size of the employer. Why is this cost not being talked about?
Sorry but the wording of some of the questions (eg. investing in other government priorities other than liquor stores) is designed to steer the respondent towards a specific response. I will not trust the results of this survey because of this.
our liquor laws are out dated and quite frankly embarrassing people coming here to visit laugh at the way we control our current laws. Why do I have to shop for food in one location and then drive a mile for a bottle of wine? We need to change, we don't need stand alone buildings like they do in Alberta it just adds to the cost. We need to change our laws! Currently an under age person can't be in a store working, like Costco, because liquor is for sale? Doesn't that same under age person live in a house with parents that have a liquor cabinet that is under the same roof? I don't buy any of that argument that looser laws will contribute to more abuse of alcohol just look at other provinces and countries to see that is not factual.
Keep liquor stores public!
Keep the stores publicly owned. Stop privatizing.
I support some privatization, such as grocery stores and a few private liquor stores. I DO NOT want alcohol sold at every gas station or every corner store. As well, the gov't should still control the warehousing. Thanks
Don't Privatize!
Would like to see options for more private retailers and to purchase wine in grocery stores
keep it the same , no to privatizing..this survey is so flawed and geared towards the governments favor of privatizing and tricking people into it
I like the idea of when you go to the States or Mexico, you can purchase your alcohol in almost any store. I don't think they have any more of a problem with quality or minors getting it than here. And we are losing a large amount of revenue from people going across the line to get cheaper booze, so why not make it more convenient and just do the same. I am sure any lost revenue can be made up other ways.
A mixture of public and private could work and be acceptable but see no problems with privatizing it all.
Get with the times! Only province that still is in the 30's. Have liquor chilled and LOWER the prices. Have a look at Alberta!
to much gov.
My major concern is that if we close government liquor stores we will be losing jobs that pay a decent living wage. This needs to be considered in the discussion of more privatization of liquor stores.
End Government involvement in the retailing and sale of liquor. This is the 21st century where most democratic jurisdictions have long ago ended such archaic practises.
Transition to the Alberta model.
It is important to use proceeds from liquor sales to offset the public health impact of alcohol in our communities. I would like to see better control of drink driving, snowmobiling, boating and better public education and treatment for alcohol abuse.
My experience with private liquor retailers (Wilcox Park in Regina, Alberta, and other retailers in Arizona) is SO much better than

the monopolized we have to deal with here. I am active supporter of the party and fully support the privatization of liquor. I would take it a step further and do not trust that the employees at SLGA are doing a good enough job wholesaling either. I think the Government you get out of wholesaling but if they are going to stay in the operation should outsource it to an expert like what is done in Alberta.
Keep liquor stores public. I can't believe our government would even consider losing a great source of revenue for our province. Does the government even care about the loss of jobs privatization will impact on the PEOPLE of this province. SHAME!
I think there should be aloud more than one establishment in a town with the license to sell of sale, especially when the restaurant closes at 9 and the bar stays open until 2am, the bar should have the right to sell off sale also!
price of liquor will increase if liquor is privatized. Good jobs in liquor stores will be lost if liquor is privatized. PLEASE DO NOT PRIVATIZE LIQUOR STORES WHICH PROVIDE GOOD INCOME TO THE PROVINCE
Stop selling our crowns!! BTW these loaded questions are ridiculous - the one about investing in liquor stores. The government doesn't invest in anything with SLGA. SLGA invests it's own money and SLGA is a huge contributor to the General Revenue Fund. Very pathetic. Fix the roads, fix the hospitals, and stop the of ruining our crown corps. Figure out how to balance a budget first and stop pushing through you agendas that the public doesn't want.
Keep it public.
The selection of specialty products in the SLGA stores is abismal. The current options of special ordering in a product by the case is not a valid or viable solution. The selction of craft beer and specialty products under the private system in Alberta or the OLG in Ontario is FAR superior to that offered by the SLGA. If the system remains public in SK, consider opening the market to a wider variety of products!
If we're going to change the current system let's go all the way and adopt a system similar to many U.S. states that is grocery store liquor sales. Replacing gov't stores with private stores would make no difference to most consumers from a convience point of view. Let's be a leader, in Canada, in this change and go to grocery store sales.
none
We don't live in the past but our governmental agencies seem to. I understand the want of monies from the sale of liquor to be redistributed throughout the province but it's just another form of tax. We as a society/province need to stop choosing what is right and wrong for each other, that's a slippery slope. This is a good first step to allowing all residents a choice.
Setting a minimum price for liquor (making it more expensive than in other provinces like Alberta for example) benefits the government more than it prevents social harm. Poorer folk beg outside liquor stores, steal from those that can afford liquor or make their own which does more social harm than affordable liquor ever will. I support the 'Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail' option being considered.
Your survey implies that government dollars spent on liquor outlets i.e. Public stores, takes away or diminishes the amount of dollars available for other important social spending such as health care. This is total misinformation, and is intended only to sway the opinions of those who do not realize that taxes collected from the sale of liquor in Public stores are a major source of revenue. In no way do they affect the availability of funds for anything else and in fact should provide an additional source of funds for use in these same social causes. By public record, SLGA consistently turns a large profit. The attempts by this government to privatize liquor sales may very well realize the same amount of tax paid in, but it will also create another batch of Mc-Jobs, and place profits from lower wages directly in the pockets of this governments corporate bedfellows. The jobs in Public stores provide an important source of decent employment in many communities, especially for women. This government talks the talk about the importance of women in the work force, but it certainly doesn't walk the walk. Wages from Public employment stay in the community, and benefit not only the employee but the viability of other businesses in the same community, where they are spent. Minimum wage jobs create nothing for the employee other than a minimum standard of living, no worker protection and merely put profits in the pockets of corporations who are already getting massive tax exemptions, paid for by all our taxes. The statement that our feedback will help design the future of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan also rings false, especially when the Minister responsible is quoted in the Star Phoenix as saying "if people want the Public Stores expanded and improved, Government may do this, but it won't be THIS government." So to intimate that they are listening to both sides of this debate is ludicrous. This is nothing more than an attempt to misdirect attention from the pathetic job they are doing in Health Care, Social Services, and other areas that really matter to us as taxpayers.
I think if the Government is going to privatize liquor sales, then it should do so in an open competitive manner - that is - allow anyone eligible for a business license to be licensed. I think that it is misleading to state that the Government is prevented from investing in other priorities while at the same time, stating this in the report "The sale of alcohol is an important

stream of revenue for the government that helps to pay for other public priorities such as healthcare, roads and education."
Do NOT privatize - keep liquor stores in government - we have too many intoxicated people already - giving more access at a lower price is the worst thing the government can do
Give privatization a shot
Government should not be business. Privatize it all.
1. Rural outlets need to be given special consideration. If a grocery store is the only feasible outlet in the community, then it should be issued a licence to sell alcoholic products. 2. I strongly disagree with liquor drive-through outlets. 3. Where there are other options available, I feel strongly that alcoholic products should not be sold in grocery stores or other venues frequented by underage citizens. 4. I just feel better as a citizen if the government continues to maintain tight/strict control and oversight of legal alcoholic products in Saskatchewan.
The big issue is the big government markup on alcohol which should be removed. Government should not be in the alcohol business at all be it profiting from a price markup or retailing. I would agree with a modest tax (e.g. 10 to 15%) that should be clearly indicated with a sticker on each product. But leave product selection and marketing to the free market!
Saskatchewan is one of the only jurisdictions that have state owned and operated liquor stores. Private companies have proven in various other jurisdictions that they have the capacity to operate liquor retail independently. Please stop spending public dollars to fund a retail industry that does not require it. Instead, please invest in infrastructure and other projects actually beneficial to the province.
Happy with the way Brads running our province
I am totally against private liquor stores in Saskatchewan. The revenue from this stores should be going to the government. Privatizing will ensure that part of the revenue goes into private hands. Some of these questions are phrased in such a way that other than no opinion other responses are slanted in support of the government agenda of privatization with no way of opting for the status quo. Privatization will lead to less tax revenue and therefore the necessity of further cuts to programs that are already suffering. This move to privatization is part of the government "cut anything and everything regardless of the effect on the lives of the citizens of this province" policy, With privatization the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. NO MORE PRIVATE STORES1111111111
The selection is not going to be better from a Private Liquor Store. Private Liquor Store owners are more likely to sell alcohol to minors rather than Public Liquor Store employees. The Private guy wants to make the sale for profit, Public guys are more responsible in this regard. Public Stores make money for the Province and it goes back into the communities for good use, not to make Joe Blow a rich individual. Privatization is wrong in my mind, leave the current system alone and stop trying to be like Alberta! If I wanted to live in Alberta I'd move there. Let's be our own Province and stop copying stupid mistakes they do. Also one more point, more robberies and crime with small private liquor outlets.
Alcohol is a commodity and should be purchased and resold like any other product, let the business people source where they choose and than resell at any profit margin that they feel is necessary. the government should not be involved in any retail business in any shape or form as long as it operates within the laws of the land.
Let's open it up to privatization. Competition is always healthy.
I would far sooner see the profits from retail liquor flow back to the government than to private sector interests, especially to large retailers like Sobeys. And I do not want to see a bunch of grotty little private liquor stores like they have in the U.S. Franchised liquor sales make sense in rural areas where a stand-alone liquor stores would not be viable. I like the current mix of publically owned and private outlets. Personally, I buy all our liquor at a public store, even though I live close to Willow Park and numerous off-sale outlets.
What's the point won't be any cheaper we have enough minimum pay jobs. More important things to do than this smokescreen
Do not privatize liquor stores!

I find it frustrating that the liquors which I choose to drink are significantly more expensive in SK compared to Alberta. The worst example I can think of is that I really enjoy Paddock Wood beer. I purchase most of it directly from the brewery which is only minutes from my house. I pay \$20 for 6 bottles of Loki. In Calgary, my friend pays \$18 for 6 bottles. So after the product travel 600 km, it is cheaper. It's only \$2, but that seems ridiculous. The same issue abounds with high-end tequila and scotch, both are routinely 25% to 30% cheaper in AB (if not more). Since I travel to AB frequently to visit family and friends I tend to reserve purchasing of these products during my travels. I figure that in a given year I save roughly \$250 purchasing premium spirits in AB. I have taken to spending more in the province with the opening of the Co-op liquor store in Blairmore because of the wonderful selection (Scotch and Tequila selection in the government run stores are embarrassingly poor), but the price discrepancies remain frustrating.
Keep the Government Liquor Stores...dont close them
I would like there to be more product selection and more locations, but for the profitable government stores to remain open. I really, really like using the SaskLiquor website. I hate having to drive all over Regina to 3 or 4 liquor stores just to find the product I'm looking for in stock - the SaskLiquor website shows me both where the product is in stock and how much it is. I live in Harbour Landing in Regina and the closest liquor store is a 10 minute drive away - seems a bit ridiculous considering the population out here. I know that Willow Park is opening a store out here in the next couple of months and that will be really great, and I will definitely shop there... but if they don't have what I'm looking for, it'd still be nice to check the website to find other stores that may have what I'm looking for in stock! It would be nice to have more selection and more availability, but when I'm looking for something specific, I wouldn't mind paying more and/or travelling further to get it.
I would rather the government operate liquor stores so the revenue goes directly back to the province, versus a private store owner.
Definitely time to privatize and have some competition/choice.
I am happy the government is asking for input. I strongly support the ability to choose and whether or not this includes going to a public or private vendor it remains my choice. I think unions are more concerned with protecting their own status rather than seeing the big picture. As long as liquor prices are competitive. And revenue for health, highways etc are protected than I support other options.
I expect the net revenue the government receives now will be the same after any changes. That is based on the same volume. If volumes increased I would expect the net revenue to government to increase. I would expect if the government sold any buildings it would be a market prices. If you can not compare the aftermath of the sale to the present situation then leave things the way they are.
I would advocate for the ability to purchase liquor outside of conventional/current locations. The ability to purchase alcohol at a grocery store is very appealing to me, and I don't see how having it available in these locations has a negative impact
I am a big supporter of the Saskparty, but if this is what they intend to do to our Province by allowing big corporations to come in and take everything from us, then I will no longer be a supporter of them. They have lost my vote.
I'm not opposed to more private retailers. However, what I don't want to see is government making the decision to not invest in its retail operations. We have public liquor stores that are not providing the quality service they should because government hasn't reinvested in the business. We should be renovating our stores and increasing our warehouse capacity to offer more selection. If we don't, while simultaneously enabling more private retailers, these stores will eventually wither and the decision to move to a fully private system will be the net effect. I certainly think government should take a hard look at modernizing SLGA. Perhaps we should separate the retail functions of SLGA from the regulatory functions and operate it as a Crown corporation. When establishing the liquor retail Crown, let's ensure that we include the appropriate dividend policy in law so that we can enable the corporation to reinvest in its operations while make a positive contribution to the provincial treasury. If we aren't going to make the decision to move to the Alberta system, and don't want our policy choices to tacitly lead us in that direction, it will require us to reinvest in our publicly funded liquor stores. We can improve the customer experience at publicly funded liquor stores, it simply takes political will.
I strongly disagree with privatizing how many jobs are going to be lost over this.
The only reason the unions are crying foul is because they risk losing their cushy gov't jobs. It must be terrible for them to think that they may actually have to work for their money in a private setting - much like the majority of us have to do! Can't wait until it's fully privatized & no one selling liquor works for the gov't! Let the money go to the working people finally.
Government should focus on regulating industry, not competing with industry. Government by definition is not business, and

therefore should not be involved in activities such as retail operations that are better served by the retail industry.
Saskatchewan needs to be out of the liquor business completely. To me this means distribution as well as sales. While there is a greater selection in the private stores in YXE and YQR the prices are not much different than anywhere else. This I believe is due to the fact they still must buy from SLGA with its horrendous markups. This needs to change. There can be no significant price drop with government distribution. The small town I live in with a franchise has pricing not really a lot different than the SLGA stores. This needs to change. And the people who say alcohol problems will increase are just blowing hot air in my opinion. Plus there are some other silly regulations that need to be changed. Example: the ability to have any type of cold beer you want not just the so called "imports" Our local pub/off-sale vendor has in past complained about the liquor franchisee about putting domestic beer in coolers. That is petty in itself; but that is the most ludicrous regulation I ever heard. I'm sure other silly rules like that exist. They also need to be changed. Probably no one will read this. But if they do thanks for the opportunity to speak out.
privatization puts profit money in one persons pocket that profit will not stay in Saskatchewan.... while the 40 people working for him or her are on minim wage going to the food bank.. Alberta prices are not cheaper..grocery stores profit does not stay in Saskatchewan..the people selling in private stores do not study and write a test on the alcohol product they are selling..so less knowledge in most cases..when i want to buy a bottle of wine or any other product they know what they are selling... not i just started last week let me ask someone else...i would like to be served by a person that is well educated in there product.
I believe there should be more off sale outlets available and have all off sale available until 12 am
I find that the staff in private store far more helpful and friendlier, and that being a coop member purchases of liquor go to my total member equity at end of year
keep it status quo
I think it is very unfortunate that this survey is so biased. Of course health care and roads are important. Liquor stores are profitable and the profit can be used to support other priorities. Alcohol abuse is an extreme problem in some segments of our population and having liquor more readily available will just exacerbate those problems. The system works well the way it is and the government needs to maintain tight control over liquor sales. The alberta system is a poor model. I appreciate being able to go into a Sask liquor store and know that the products I want will be available. Govt liquor stores provide customer service. Private stores carry smaller product lines in order to maximize profit.
I believe that there is a role for government in supporting jobs that pay a 'living wage'. Government should model that behavior.
Government should not be in the retail business alcohol or otherwise.
Please eliminate the Ad Velorem policy, this unfairly drives up the price of quality liquors.
Government has to withdraw from owning liquor stores. Paying Union members \$20.00 per hour plus, to stock shelves is unbelievable. It is 2014, let's get with the rest of the country/world.
I believe liquor retailing should be all privatised. Open sales up for competition. Remove the socialistic attitude from sales.
I believe our liquor stores have improved over the last several years,however they still lack selection,locations & price.We residents in Saskatchewan deserve much better than we have been receiving.
You are messing with people's jobs and means of living. You want everyone to make minimum wage? Let your buddies get a private store and have the rich get richer. I know many people in Alberta and they are not as happy as you seem to make out. Talking about private stores being open a whole hour later, playing to cheaper booze for the younger generation. These are ridiculous concerns. The way the system is now works perfectly fine! Stop worrying about you and your buddies making money and take of the province. They are bigger concerns the alcohol.
Gov. going in right direction, #3 is a good option, good number of people now buy liquor in alberta hoping not to be seen.
I dont oppose government run and operated liquor sales but I do support privatizing the sector at the same time. Living in Edmonton when they went through the privatizing era I know about the convenience aspect of it, the increased selection and better pricing options through competition. However, saturation of the market in select areas was a problem and some communitites had dozens of liquor stores within walking distace of each other and that is a social problem that must be built into a liquor sales model here in SK. I do think it is time for the province to change and update our current model to reflect the demands of the current population. I have shopped at one of the new private Sobeys liquor stores (Saskatoon) and it was a

fantastic experience. Selection was great and staff were knowledgeable and helpful also. Price was pretty similar to SLGA however they do have the ability to mark down if they choose which benefits the consumers. A few alternatives I read in the provincial comparables are of great interest to me and I think would be greatly supported if adopted here in SK. The Liquor Mart Express model used in Manitoba for grocery stores would be very nice to have in urban centres here in SK. For convenience of one-stop shopping for groceries and alcohol in one place would be a cost savings for families in fuel and time. Plus not having to drive to separate stores reduces emissions from vehicles so there is the environmental spin also. From a planning perspective, grocery stores are regulated through municipal bylaws and usually do not locate in close proximity to one another for competition purposes. This would work for the goal of not saturating a neighbourhood with liquor stores also and would achieve a public convenience objective as well. Hours of operation same as grocery store, but I do like the idea of having government staff for public safety aspect ensuring no underage sales and selling to intoxicated individuals who might get into their car after purchasing. I would also like the government here in SK to look at the Manitoba "Bottle & Cork" model stores for bulk wine sales here. This would be a very interesting addition to the wine retail market.
I strongly believe that government run liquor stores are better for the community and I am against adding more private store to our community
Changing over to an Alberta plan would make sense, also look at the way the USA sells liquor, in stores, seems to work very well, I can only hope there are positive changes as we are still in the old age thinking in Sask. lets move on!
Government should concentrate on Public Health, Safety, Roads, Schools rather than selling liquor, insurance, power, Energy, Telephones. It should leave such stuff to private sector. Please check how Alberta operates, your next door neighbor. They have huge surplus and they have less taxes.
I think a mix of private and public liquor stores is a good thing.... it could lead to an all inclusive one stop shopping experience for entertaining your guests
I always purchase the bulk of my liquor from Alberta due to the price. It is my belief the province would increase the revenues simply by being competitive on the price point with Alberta. As more sales at less markup can equate to as much profit.
Our Province is way too conservative and has to get with the times of moving forward. Why is our Government even spending money and time to do this survey?? I am sure the citizens of this Province have been asking for private liquor stores for enough years that it makes you think if this debating is just a job creation idea. And does the Government really think that setting a minimum price on liquor is a way to reduce social harm that can result from access to cheap alcohol??? I believe this might create more social harm as those that cannot afford our prices will do more social harm such as theft to accumulate the funds required to pay for our overpriced liquor. I ask you Saskatchewan Government please quit spending our tax dollars on things that are such a waste of time and money so many other services such as our roads could have the extra money. Oh and the deadline for this waste of time and money survey is January 30, 2015.....why why why does it take so long to make a decision that should have happened years ago.
I always favor private, non Union business. I do agree with the province remaining in the wholesaling of liquor. You have my full support to privates. I am a retired crown corporation Union member. Keep unions out of it.
Our community was one of four that lost the government store in July 2014 a retail grocery store was awarded the liquor store. The store owner has increased the size of the store, open seven days a week, one stop shopping and two tills that removes the problem of underage staff.
Liquor should not be sold in grocery stores where minors can see. If we keep cigarette off kids sight why are beer and liquor products displayed in full in grocery stores.
Government markup (profit) is too high even though some proceeds go to legitimate gov't programs. Also government jobs retailing liquor pay way more than they should which adds to the high prices the provinces charge. I know two teachers who kept their liquor store jobs as cashiers even after they were teaching with their degrees because their liquor store wages were too good to turn down. They did this for a number of years. This is not right. They are paid too much for the skill required, sorry. Thanks for letting me provide input.
Having more options to purchase liquor on Saskatchewan will not lead to social harm. Part of the problem with alcohol abuse is that alcohol is seen to be different and interesting by young people. Responsible alcohol usage is normal and is what should be modeled to our young people, not necessarily abstinence. There is no reason that as a shopper I shouldn't be able to buy a bottle of wine at the grocery store as part of the overall grocery purchase I am making.
Do not privatize the SLGA. If I am going to buy liquor I would rather buy it from myself instead of a corporation. If there are going to be profits made from liquor sales I want them to be made by the province so I don't have to pay more taxes to support health care. Please expand the services that the SLGA offers to include more wine specialty shops like they have in Ontario.
I do not want to see exclusive private owned liquor stores. Private stores would hire employees at minimum wage and make profits for themselves where currently employees in public stores receive decent wages and profits are used to fund provincial social and infrastructure programs.

If the Government does proceed with more privatization of liquor retail sales it should only do this in the locations where costs to operate public stores exceeds 12 percent of annual revenue.

I would like to keep a balance of where we are today with retail stores and have no problem in constructing new Gov't owned stores to keep the existing ratio of public/private outlets.

I would prefer to see a more balanced mix of private and government liquor retailers in Saskatchewan. I do not believe that the provincial government needs to increase or decrease the number of liquor retail store it currently operates, nor the number of staff it employs at these locations; however, I do believe that any additional future liquor retailers should be private.

Furthermore, if the provincial government is going to legislate how private liquor retailers and off-sales sell their products, then the government should remove these retailers' ability to increase their prices based on the hour of the day (ie. off-sales selling liquor at a higher prices during the hours when the government liquor stores are closed). The cost of liquor products should be the same at 11AM as they are at 11PM.

Customer service is horrible in govt liquor stores. They don't need to provide service or civility because it has no bearing on keeping their job. Terrible selection. Dinosaur operation. Why do these people deserve triple the wage to do the same thing as someone in Walmart or Home Depot? If they had knowledge of emerging products or how to recommend wines, beer, etc then this would justify the wage. They run a till and manage inventory - the end. You want a surly look and no polite conversation when purchasing your liquor - by all means head to the nearest govt liquor store.

My preference would be the Alberta style fully private liquor sales.

I moved to Alberta from Saskatchewan in 1992 and saw how well it went and that there were no negatives from a consumer point of view. The world really didn't change outside of the government workers effected. On returning to Saskatchewan in 1996 the idea that we needed to have the Government involved in retail sales really seemed absurd in light of how well things had worked in Alberta.

I checked out one of the private stores, a co-op and the benefit of being able to earn equity on purchases from there is an added bonus no gov't store can offer. Supporting friends and former coworkers is also a bonus, much like the rural franchise locations,,,pay more but better than having to drive in to the city.

The addition of private sales may help decrease costs with added competition, which would also be a benefit as prices keep climbing.

Since we have the most impaired drivers in a province I think we need to look at the effect of more liquor on society. Responsible drinking should be emphasized.

I support private liquor sales to achieve greater selection and price competitiveness

Get rid of unions

As an event organizer I deal with SLGA in regards to liquor permits and raffle licenses so my concern is if sales go privatized will an organization still get the kick-back from SLGA for expenses like an organization does now? Or is SLGA not going to change if privatized!?

I full support private stores. We don't need government run outlets - the nanny state. It is an added expense what with public salaries and pensions, property management, etc. I understand the province will maintain warehousing operations. I have no problem with that continuing as long as we don't just transfer existing staff from the stores into warehousing (no reduction of public staffing). One issue that must be addressed is security for the patrons in and around all of the stores. This is a major issue at the current "public" operated liquor stores. There are invariably one or more standing outside watching you go in and out. It can be very unnerving and should not be a "you bet your life" situation! There have been attacks at all of the Regina public stores. It is a pleasure to shop at the Willows (Regina) existing store and I look forward to the new one opening soon.

Walk in coolers

Saskatchewan has the highest rate of Impaired drivers and also underage drinking in Canada.

The focus will go from selling liquor responsibly to selling to whoever just as long as you can make a sale and turn a profit.

Liquor staff are vigilant on IDing customers and also refusal of selling to intoxicated persons. The current system is run very efficiently and effectively.

Why do we have to change our system we have at present? We have a variety of outlets namely: 75 gov't stores, 190 private and 450 off-sale outlets making 632 million annual revenue. Perfect!

The employees are well paid with benefits working in gov't stores. A person must earn a living. This shows we care for the workers in SK.

One time the liquor dividend to the gov't was greater than from potash. My wife agrees with me incase she can not submit her thoughts from this computer anymore--only one!
Remove the government from the sale and distribution of alcohol.
Planned migration to private is the way to go. Get the union mentality out of stores asap. Public stores would have to compete (not a role of gov't) so phase them out asap.
We should allow purchasing at most of our retail stores for accessibility. I want to be able to purchase my beverages at Costso - Safeway and other establishments instead of having to drive to a regulated outlet. Our prices are too high and when you look at Alberta you cant help but wonder if this is due to government and union workers. Personally I make sure I buy and extra couple of items to bring home everytime I am out of province due to the cost and I know you are to. Think about that lost revenue to the province if you are competitive. Time to get out of the 1950's and catch up with the rest of the world Saskatchewan.
I have lived in three different provinces and travelled through many US states. I appreciate inexpensive alcohol available in neighbouring provinces and states at grocery stores and large chains such as Costco.
Alcohol revenue should be kept in the pockets of the province.
I find it a joke that my city of 35000 residents has one liquor store and my options for purchase are limited to the discretionary ordering whims and practices by a faceless govt entity.
Shake off the antiquated socialistic approach to all business operations. The market will eventually determine the most efficient and successful method to adopt.
Privatizing all/more liquor stores replaces good-paying jobs with minimum wage jobs = not good for the economy. The govt should be a liquor retail competitor in order to control prices.
I don't believe the government has any role in the sale of liquor in Canada or Saskatchewan. The days of NDP running everything are over.
Do not make stores be stand-alone like in Alberta. Let them be part of another business so they have a better chance of surviving in rural Saskatchewan. Also do not put a mileage restriction - let every community that wants one have one.
In my opinion and what I have observed while visiting Alberta they seem to have a good system in place. Not only ample locations to purchase but a more competitive cost to consumers compared to Sask. I also understand the Gov. of Ab. is handling distribution at a very profitable level.
Leave liquor sales as is. Staff @ sask liquor stores are responsible & continually check id & also check if customers are under the influence. I don't know if this would occur as frequently in a private run system. The government makes a great deal of revenue from this system that currently supports health & education, social services & many other programs that make this province a good place to call home. Sask liquor employees also have a stake in this province as they live, work & raise their families here. They also spend their money here, which is part of the economy. People are always going to purchase alcohol, so keep the profits in the hands of the people.
Your questions on the government being able to invest in other priorities is very misleading and should not be part of this survey,
The 'rules' set by government did not prevent me from consuming alcohol while I was still a minor, nor did they prevent alcohol abuse among people I knew. In my experience, when looking for a particular product, getting it in Alberta has always been the solution.
I believe that the government should definitely regulate and monitor the sales of alcohol, to ensure that it is not getting into the wrong hands. The powers that be do not allow private businesses to sell marijuana, it is regulated and I believe that alcohol is definitely more harmful when it is in the wrong irresponsible hands. I don't think that private liquor stores will monitor as well as the SLGA. And the profits supposedly go toward good causes, who or where would private profit sales go too?
I have no problem in the Government getting out of the business completely. In Britain and Europe, one can walk into any grocery store and buy wines and spirits without having to walk out to a separate building.
My first priority would be to see an increase in selection of products available to me as a consumer. Second would be to see a

reduction in gov'ts costs associated with building and maintaining infrastructure associated with gov't owning buildings required to retail alcohol. Third would be to see a reduction in the number of civil servants required to provide the structure/system to deliver liquor retailing services in SK.
The discussion ought to be about the SLGA's monopoly on importing, wholesaling and warehousing. I place the greatest importance on price and selection (especially of high-quality and foreign beers) and as long as the SLGA's monopoly on the non-retail areas of the industry continues price and selection will not change. Though I'm sure you already know this.
Liquor should definitely be sold in grocery stores. At the very least wine and beer. WE DO NOT NEED GOV OWNED LIQUOR STORES. And while were at it start privatizing our hospitals. They are dumps in Reg, NB, st pauls in Saskatoon. we need new ones let someone else build and pay for them. Thx
Prices for alcohol need to be lower. Keeping high prices are not going to stop alcoholism. If people are alcoholic they will find ways to be drunk no matter what. Don't punish the majority for what a few people do.
Inside the background information and survey provided no mention is made regarding the partnership of business between the Government/SLGA and existing restaurants selling alcohol. Specifically restaurants without an off-sale or franchise that are restricted to resell only in-house. Why are they not also considered viable for expanded service options? Why are there different rules for different players in what is essentially the same industry? Are these types of unfair practices also to be reviewed by this process?
Increased access to quality and well priced products does not increase substance abuse. We live in one of the most restricted and regulated provinces in Canada, and yet we have high rates of abuse and drunk driving. Regulating an entire system to deter the irresponsible few is illogical and ineffective. The new Saskatchewan deserves better in terms of pricing, availability and selection. Also many restaurants choose not to carry premium products (craft beer especially) because of supply difficulties, this needs to change!
Remain status quo
the Alberta style may be the best way to go in the long run.
Having read the Options Paper fairly closely I get the sense that not much will change with respect to pricing given that the government is not considering changing the ad valorem (percentage based) mark-up rate to a flat rate mark-up. That is really the fundamental problem here. Prices here in SK will always be considerably higher than in Alberta. What's the point of privatizing other than to slash wages of unionized store employees. Privatizing but still adding a 167% to the base cost of any spirit is silly. If the gov't is going to keep that in place then keep the status quo. People will be sorely disappointed when they get overrun with dingy liquor stores but still faced with high prices compared to alberta. All the cons and no pros. I have shopped at the new private liquor store and saw the prices as expensive as the gov't store. What's the point? Oh and one more thing, having just come back from Europe - what's the big deal with buying wine etc in grocery stores? Please treat the public as adults. Has this been studied to show that restricting access serves some public good?
It is time to move to privatization of liquor stores.
more competition in liquor stores is real business; so many people travel to Alberta to buy liquor because the prices are so much better, and more competitive as you can get different deals in different stores; the social aspect isn't an issue, as people who want alcohol will go wherever they want - having it available in a grocery store will not create any more of a problem
Keep the current public system, with any new stores being private
I strongly believe that our government ran liquor stores are the best , not only for the knowledge the staff bring but the control of substance they provide. There always pleasant and helpful In every aspect. I'm proud to say our government liquor stores are the best.
We don't have off sales in Lintlaw,sk after 8 pm which is a problem for anyone wanting to get a case of beer to take home or whatever so they can safely drink at home
Maybe because of my age but I think the government is remiss in getting out of government liquor stores. Leave well enough alone there is enough places for people to purchase except in the new areas of expanding cities. I think the jobs that are available would be greatly reduced if privitization come to fruition. I have visited a few privetly owned stores in Alberta and the prices can be quite higher than Saskatchewan at some places. Used to be cheaper to buy in Alberta but privitization put an end to that. One thing my niece told me is that there are places that have sales from time to time. There is a liquor store in Vermilion that offers a discount of 10% on Tuesdays and the same size of container I buy in Sk is \$7 cheaper.
I am adamantly opposed to any increase in the privatization of liquor sales and the potential closure of existing government owned liquor stores. If they are not profitable, find a way to make them so. The revenue from Crown owned businesses over

time will provide continuing investment opportunities that far exceed the potential funds from a one time sale of these outlets and the privatization of liquor sales. I am opposed to the privatization of liquor sales and to the privatization of any other Crown corporations or businesses.
Liquor cost went up when full privatization took place in Alberta. Private owners need more profit, or as much as they can get. How do you replace lost revenue to government??
In my opinion privatization of any kind is never a good, I have always felt that privatization just makes the rich get richer! Often privatization starts out as small mom & pop enterprises but eventually the bigger corporate stores ie: Costco, Superstores, etc, move in & take over. What happens to all of the SLGA employee's? Do they just end up on the unemployment lines? Small town government store employee's and their families could end up having to move from rural areas to find work, thus affecting enrolment in schools, recreational activities, etc.
I would like to see the government maintain the public system we have while offering a limited number of private retailers. I would also like to see the government loosen the rules applied to the use of "home made" wine for example the ability to serve such products at weddings etc.
I think the government should continue operating publicly owned liquor stores.
I believe that the restrictions placed on Saskatchewan consumers is an unjustifiable paternalism that has no place in modern Canada. Why should Saskatchewan citizens face such strict limitations on the variety and amount of products they can choose to purchase? There are over 1,100 whiskey's available in Alberta. Why are Saskatchewan citizens restricted to the meager handful that are available to them here? There are thousands of excellent craft beers being produced in Canada, and the US, so why are there so few available to us here? What possible justification is there for preventing a capable adult from purchasing products that they desire to have? My foremost concern is not who owns the stores where I can purchase alcohol, but rather that we be permitted to buy, or order, any product that we desire, and not have some bureaucrat telling me that I should be satisfied with what I have available, because that's what they have checked off on their spreadsheet. This level of oversight is insulting and demeaning.
n/a
I feel that the privatization of liquor stores will not only increase the under age and intoxicated people easier access to liquor. I think that other establishments will not be as careful in screening the customers. I also think the safety to staff and customers will also decline.
What would be the point in losing the revenue from the liquor stores and give it to a private owner?
Sent email earlier
No one has discussed the provinces savings by the privatization of retail liquor sales. Or the product selection options if wholesaling was outsourced or an opportunity for private product selection input. Public input does not seem welcome by the SLGA
Would like more competitive pricing, and better selection. Currently, I have to import my own wine varieties and join a wine club to get any kind of decent wordly wine selection. As well, having wine in grocery stores would be a fantastic idea. Right now, I can hardly wait to go to Scottsdale where they have ten times the selection of SLGA in their grocery stores and Costco. I don't see their society or governments crumbling. It makes our current state look terrible.
society has evolved and time for change that aligns with other jurisdictions. like to greater availability such as grocery stores etc.
Keep public stores, they benefit the province and the communities.
Government has better priorities than being a retailer of liquor . Revenue should stay the same or go up under privatization . Smaller government should be the goal . Maintaining union jobs is the not reason enough to keep government liquor stores . Let business do business . It is always more sfficient .
Until you can show us that private is more profitable than public I will continue to support public crowns.
keep govt stores...keep the good paying jobs your local govt workers..
Beer, wine and liquor is not a necessity to survive, therefore price and availability is not a concern with me. I appreciate the selection and that the revenues benefit the Province.
I don't want to have to pay more taxes as a result of the stores going private. The move benefits a small few who choose to retail alcohol and will not benefit the consumer when they decide to hike the prices.

Lets sell the Liquor stores the government now owns to private enterprise and catch up with the rest of the world. as long as we maintain the same level of revenues its a no brainer!! I am in favor of implementing either option #2 or #4.
Government should have very little to do with the sale of any product or any type of business. Put the sale of alcohol into the hands of the business community and let the market dictate how it is sold, how the stores are staffed and let the market set the price. It is only since the talk of private liquor sales that I have seen anything approaching friendly, helpful customer service at any SLGA outlet. They have historically been rude, officious and overpaid.
My main priority is reducing harm by the sale of alcohol. I would be horrified to see liquor being sold on grocery store shelves in full view of children. They would be growing up thinking that buying liquor is no different than buying milk! Alcohol abuse, is at least, as bad as tobacco use if not more so. At least people don't die on the highway from smoking!
Completely support fully private
I travel to Alberta quite a bit and find both selection and pricing better there than in Saskatchewan. I also find staff at most government liquor stores in Saskatchewan to be grumpy and more often than not, all congregating in a chat circle rather than working out on the floor providing customer assistance.
Live part time in Alberta and the experience with private retail has been nothing but positive.
I am not informed enough to comment about how the government should use the money or if the revenues should be kept the same but I much prefer a private liquor store over a government owned one. I would rather pay more at Willow Park (for example since it's the only private one in Regina) than go to a government store because it has a more inviting atmosphere and I get more help from the staff.
Biggest concern is lack of selection, and monopoly of sales within Saskatchewan. SLGA Limitations on variety are unnecessary it does nothing for public safety/well being. We should have any product available at any time. It shouldn't be a big ordeal to order a foreign product and it shouldn't be a hassle to get it promptly. I feel that because SLGA controls what products are carried the general public suffers. We are limited in selection and can't form a culture of appreciation for the product. I speak as a member of the food and beverage industry and have grown to see my ability to refine tastes and expand knowledge of spirits and liqueurs very limited, and as a result we have a culture of easy consumption. E.G. Rye coke VS Sazerac One is a fast consumed beverage consumed with the sole intention of getting cheap booze into the system and the other is crafting /consuming a high end drink for sipping and appreciation of the work ingredients.
Would like to see a broader selection of rare and imported liquor both available in store and through the SLGB direct contacts. That being said, the direct contacts have already begun diversifying the product lines, albeit buying by the caseload isn't always ideal though. Please keep liquor stores government owned and operated.
We are so behind the times, it is crazy how strict the rules are here. Travel the world, and they are more relaxed
SLGA stores should have later hours of operation and the better selection.
I do not think this is a well-written survey. It is not about whether I want the government to focus on education and health care. I think that is a red-herring question. Of course, I want good education and health care and I think that is a government priority. I do believe that government also has a responsibility for the care of its citizens through controlled sale of alcohol. Public safety is set as a priority with the government sale of liquor. Private business are not interested in public safety. Privatizing the sale of liquor unless accompanied by regulation and appropriate inspection and supervision of adherence to the regulations will present harm to the public. Recent reports on the sale of tobacco products in Saskatchewan has shown that private retailers do not adhere to the regulations as well as they should. There are insufficient inspectors to complete these tasks. I do not believe getting out of the liquor business will be cheaper for the government if they do the job of public safety by having enough enforcement. The enforcement can currently be a part of the appropriately paid staff in our government run stores. We already have enough prevalence of a drinking culture in Saskatchewan. We do not need to increase access. I would support the reduction of alcohol advertising at events as we do with tobacco. Alcohol consumption is connected to all kinds of health and welfare issues. We have a societal obligation to mitigate the harm through some public control. I can access as much alcohol as I want, maybe not as many varieties as I would like but it is certainly no burden to have to go to a liquor store rather than the grocery to pick up any alcohol I might want. I would support government run kiosks within groceries stores if that was cheaper than building new stores.
Our selection of liquor in this province is embarrassing! One private store nearly doubled the amount of SKUs that the entire province had previously listed -- which was also approximately 10% of Alberta's SKU listing! We are NOT all just looking to drink a 24 pack of Boh or dump some Wiser's into a Big Gulp. Our current SLGA sku listing is all about the lowest common denominator - for any niche, high-end, or unusual products I always have to go out-of-province. The private Co-Op store has FINALLY brought some of the selection available elsewhere, obviously after doubling the SKU count,

and I would like more of this to continue.

Being that I buy my specialty high-end, or uncommon purchases elsewhere, and being that these are usually higher-dollar items, this is money the province is missing. If you figure in what people buy elsewhere which this province sees no revenue from, sales would easily increase if the need to buy in Alberta and the USA wasn't such a factor!

Example - at SLGA stores, the highest end bourbons are typically around \$49 - Woodford Reserve, etc. Nothing higher is available, as the selection is very dumbed-down. Now, Co-Op carries products up to and above the \$90 range and *MANY* of them are often sold-out! There IS a market for these products, but we can't get them due to an outdated system and "safe" product selection which focuses heavily on mediocre big-brandname products that will sell in volume, and take no chances.

I have to go out of province to buy vermouth that isn't a mediocre mass-market brand - Dolin or Carpano Antica. We carry the bottom-shelf brands like Stock, Martini-Rosso, Cinzano -- and nothing else!

I am an enthusiast of classic cocktails, and until the Co-Op store, it was all but impossible to find anything of quality that these classic cocktails required. There is a cocktail renaissance occurring right now, and anyone interested has to shop elsewhere! Myself, I am just an individual, but I have spent THOUSANDS outside of the province in the past year - money I could have spent HERE. Imagine what a cocktail lounge attempting to cater to the craft-cocktail movement would spend here; firstly, they couldn't really exist easily due to the meagre 2000-SKU SLGA lists. Now with the Co-Op pushing for more SKUs, it's possible but there is so much further to go, and it's just starting to get in the right direction.

Why CAN'T we have a listing approaching the 20,000 SKUs of the province right next to us? Why underestimate the population of Saskatchewan and paint us all as having McDonald's-caliber taste in liquors? If we stay public, we DEFINITELY need the system of ordering unlisted items to be overhauled so that future stores (and possibly specialty stores catering to craft beer only, or fine wines only, or high-end spirits and cocktails!) can actually survive and exist!

I don't like the idea of "friends of the government" profiting from liquor sales rather than all of the citizens through the general revenue fund

I want the profits generated to invest in healthcare, policing, and community supports required as a result of access to alcohol.

There is absolutely no reason for the government to be involved in the sale of alcohol at all.

I never understood why you can buy cigarettes anywhere and alcohol is only available in government owned stores.... I would love the opportunity to purchase a bottle of wine or a case of beer in the grocery store rather than having to drive to a certain location that only sells alcohol. I don't see little towns falling apart like Riverhurst Saskatchewan where you can get the mail, fuel up with gas, buy groceries and buy alcohol all at the same time... oh yea you can buy your fishing or hunting license there too!!

private all the way-grocery stores etc

Reduce liquor regulations regards to events and outdoor beer gardens.

copy what quebec and Bc do.

This will help craven and kinsmen and big events cut the red tape in the city parks and provincial parks in the provinces.

Wascana park could be self funded if it had a 120 room FANTASY convention hotel with mineral springs Part and a KOA campground for 50 campers near douglas park or near siast that allowed liquor on these premises in the city as well as the provincial parks.

For the big events have the police hand out plastic cups for better relations to the patrons. green mile and walking out of the events with their plastic cups and tailgate events.

Promote saskatchewan hard liquor companies and micro-breweries in trade missions.

Develop a rrsp - saskwork venture fund that would help set-up small entreperures in this new ventures and new resturants and beer businesses but the public could get the growth in rrsp's as the industry matures.

plus have sask enterprise push for acces to other provinces since its a value added product with the raw product made in saskatchewan rye and barley and malting.penaltze the companies/provinces that are not letting in great western (example)into their provinces.

Stop letting molson an labatts get away of destroying brewing businesses. Have a golden share in each of these liquor business being bought out and shutdown by bigger companies in other provinces.

The businesses can sell to other saskatchewanians to keep the businesses in saskatchewan.

Have a tax regime focused on attracting new breweries and established hard liquor and liqures to set-up in saskatchewan and promote ice-wines from maple creek and up at price albert.

We should lower taxes on products made in saskatchewan and raise fees on products from other provinces that are not trading freely with saskatchewan.

Set-up a board to keep track of regulations and for every new rule BY SLGA they must reduce 2 old regulations. LESS RED TAPE more growth. The liquor laws have effected parks and businesses and tourist ideas for 50 years.. wascana park and saskatoon and moose jaw parks have been totally effected and its byzantine laws to have a family reunion with beer and wine? they need to change. why can't they have a restaurants in the parks..the rents could subdize these places and make them better and less burden on the province. If i book an event at a park..the park should handle the liquor permit. one -stop event planning quicker business. Sorry for the rant - i have been to europe and mexico and usa / booze it is not a big deal to them . no more nanny state
It is time for a transition from Government run to private operations. Saskatchewan people are already purchasing product in other Provinces or in the USA due to price point and selection. Eliminate the high operating costs of Government run operations and let the private sector do what they do best run a business.
Govt should not be involved with any business that free enterprise can operate. This is socialism and it is immoral. This includes power , gas, telephones, health care
I find the Union's response to this issue and possible privatization almost offensive. They use media to spread "FEAR" rather than have a meaningful discussion. I understand they have a role to protect their members, but I do not consider Selling Liquor should warrant a "Govt" salary. The salary and benefits should reflect the position and challenge/education requirements to fulfill.
I would love to be able to pick up a bottle wine in the grocery store. Convenience would be nice. Now I have to drive across town to purchase liquor/wine at the Gov't store whereas if it was available in the grocery store it would really nice. It should not have to be a separate building from the grocery outlet.
I currently purchase liquor products in Alberta because they are much cheaper than a government run liquor store anywhere in Saskatchewan.
Our prices need to be more competitive with other markets, we should not always use sin taxes to the degree they are used. Private liquor stores should be more competitive as they do not need to pay the ridiculously high union wages. I find the union ads depicting how good they are to be disrespectful of the general public
By changing the way the liquor stores are run right now is saying people shouldnt worry about serving minors or intoxicated customers or getting friendly knowledgeable staff. It would be destroying thousands of peoples careers they have worked very hard to have. This government seems more worried about the rich getting richer and the middle class struggling even more to make ends meet. We are keeping the public safer by monitoring intoxication and minors purchasing alcohol. This government seems to not be concerned about responsibility and the welfare of the public. Really sad actually!!!
Profits from the sale of liquor should be retained by the government for the use and betterment of the people of Saskatchewan, not be given to private companies. The loss of jobs by closing or eliminating public liquor stores would NOT be balanced by jobs in the private sector. This proposal would only result in a decreased revenue stream for the province, to the detriment of our population.
In regards to the amount of stores in any given area... If they are private stores, it should be the same as any other retail establishment, where the strong survive. If too many stores are there, the business may not support them, and some will have to close. At least it would not be the tax dollars in play, it would be private money.
I am a supporter of the current Govt. and so not a fan of crown corp.s. Having said that, I stongly believe many of our crowns are so intrenched in our economy as to be vital to it. (good paying jobs that would surely be lost income for govt. and loss of supporting businesses). As for the Govt. Liquor Stores some of this applies and as the Minister has just stated there would be no or little price saving at the retail level,I see no win in change.
Keep it public. The profits go back to the government to keep taxes down.
Please don't privatize the retail of liquor. I love my gov't liquor store by my house. It's huge, lots of selection, fairly good hours. It's also important to continue providing good jobs to people and keeping the gov't revenue from the sale of liquor.
Until now, prices are way to high when I buy liquor in a private liquor store, especially wine. For the same bottle of wine, I pay 4 to 8 dollars less in Quebec!
Unwise to privatize public assets...do not think you are going to get away with this, next election we are coming for you, Wall

I would like to see the Government Retail Liquor stores enhanced and expanded.
I have had many positive experiences in other countries and provinces with a privatized liquor sales policy. It tends to be cheaper, well regulated, more convenient and better for the economy. It opens up more private sector job opportunities and the competition is healthy.
The wording of the questions is slanted heavily toward allowing more private/total privatization of liquor sales. Keep liquor sales, good jobs, and safe distribution in government hands.
we cannot afford the wages and pensions for these liquor board employees. we should make them private.
Selection in Saskatchewan is so limited with government controls. I shop in other provinces and stock up.
I do not believe that the government should be involved in retailing. I believe that there are many successful demonstrations of private liquor retailing in the province. More so than successful demonstrations of government run retailers. I believe that a future where the Government of Saskatchewan is longer involved in the retailing of liquor is better for customers and our economy.
I strongly believe liquor is a luxury, and has serious impacts on our community and families when it is abused. I believe the province should profit from the sale of liquor so that it can invest this profit back in the social, policing and health services that can be negatively impacted from the consumption of alcohol. I am a 33 year old male, and drink at least 26 units of alcohol a week. I don't think alcohol needs to be more accessible, nor less expensive. I have also lived and worked in Alberta and do not think the service and selection is better there, just cheaper with lower-paid employees. If we are going to sell liquor I think workers should be well paid. It is not an essential commodity in peoples' lives. I support that the people working in liquor stores get paid well, and that the sale of liquor is administered by the government.
I do not believe the government should be manipulating prices in an effort to manage social behaviour. I have had the opportunity to live in toronto, calgary and saskatoon and I see no added social benefit for saskatchewan's high liquor prices.
I don't support a full privatization model. The current model in place provides everyone with the best of both.
The current liquor operation, rules & regulations are too complex with unnecessary expenses - for example if a retailer wants to sell beer from a local micro brewer they are not allowed to get the beer direct from the brewer - it apparently has to be purchased by the govt and sent to a govt warehouse and then the retailer can purchase from there. This adds extra overhead and expense. It should not be a function of government to run liquor retail nor to over regulate it.
For some reason the survey infers that government liquor retailing only costs the government and is not a source of revenue. This is false. We don't have to choose between health care and alcohol - publicly owned and regulated liquor generates revenue for these public services. Bulk purchasing is the real driver behind cost here. The LCBO in Ontario offers products at lower cost and its an even larger publicly owned enterprise. I had to laugh when I walked into a Sobeys liquor store in Alberta and saw no evidence that the private regime is less expense, except for the fact that there were bulk discounts. There's no reason why the public system here in SK couldn't do the same. What we need is a public system that balances consumer demand with a harm-reduction policy. This means having a forwarding thinking management system within the current public enterprises oriented around locally produced goods (craft beers, etc.), more locations, and limited private involvement. The depanneur model in Quebec could be useful to examine here as well.
I am concerned that this is a trial balloon to determine the level of public reaction to the privatization of Saskatchewan's crown corporations. Alcohol is extremely detrimental to our society. As it is now, the profits made come back to the people of the province, and I would support more of this money going into programs and expanded treatment options to deal with the costs of alcohol to our society. I am not saying people shouldn't drink, but we must acknowledge the huge cost. Privatizing liquor sales will mean profits go to the private sector rather than benefiting citizens.
The system should be a fully private like the Alberta model. I believe that there would be a greater benefit to having private retailing in Saskatchewan. I also believe that Saskatchewan residents should have the first chance to purchase the liquor outlets or be offered the ability to buy the former locations. There should also be a limited number of private retail outlets or else it will be a race to the bottom and the person/company with the deepest pockets will win.
More availability of stores and their ability to provide unique variety at good prices that are suitable for region.
I support private liquor stores due to the increased selection they offer and their willingness to take on riskier products like small craft beers. If Government liquor stores offered the same selection and willingness to bring in new products I would happily shop there as my concern is the product - not the place where I am buying it.

Private is the way to go!
I welcome privatization but the discussion should include harsher consequences for drinking and driving, and an improved availability of public transportation and taxi services, with the latter being more market driven (i.e. Uber and other ride share services should be made legal).
I do not see the advantage of removing the stores from government control if the prices of alcohol are not going to change and remain the same. All you do is remove the overhead of operating the stores and move profits above the tax to business owners outside of the province.
The fact that you claim to be raising prices of liquor to "protect" people is complete and utter Every other province in our country sells liquor at costs lower (and in some cases much lower, ie: Quebec, Alberta, BC) than Saskatchewan. We are already paying a ridiculously high price for liquor.
It seems to me that the current system has been evolving since day one, and has been able to offer competitive prices and product variety compared to other jurisdictions in Canada. This should be considered a success based on our small population and the distances that goods travel to reach the consumer. Prices in a private system will become destabilized, Private Urban stores, especially in Regina, will be the only ones to benefit from low transportation costs, while Rural stores will be paying freight costs that are based on mileage, and if Saskatchewan has one obvious defining characteristic, it is mileage. Consumers who shop based on pricing will have one more reason to travel to urban centres, which will have a negative impact on rural Saskatchewan. The provincial government should continue to focus on rural economic development and population growth that will create larger markets for private enterprise to develop naturally. Forcing privatization in this case seems to have a lot of negative possibilities for a marginally informed population.
The price may be cheaper in the city but once you go to any other community the price would go off the charts. Sale of alcohol to minors and intoxicated people would go up because private will sell to anyone to make a profit. People should not have to work 2 or 3 jobs to make a living. The money that the public liquor stores already go to roads, hospitals and education, etc.
- Government policy can be applied to an industry regardless of ownership of the businesses in it. - There is no problem with Government competing with business for business, but that should be at all levels from wholesale to retail. - I am in favour of expanded private retail options.
Status Quo
While pricing is an issue, the lack of decent selection from the government stores makes them somewhat less than ideal. I have a taste for specialty tequilas that cannot be purchased here in any way other than by the case. As I enjoy my drinks in moderation, a case of any one brand would likely last me many years. This is the biggest reason I stock up on such products when I'm out of the province.
Privatization naturally will bring competitiveness - but it is a slippery slope. I don't think we would see a larger increase in sales, people have enough options currently to access their liquor needs on any given day of the week. A major concern would be the governments lost revenue, that is allocated already for a variety of items through out our province, if we privatize, some of that revenue would be lost, then what will it be added too...fuel, food or other essentials? Liquor as with tobacco is a luxury item, to tax those that chose to consume it is a good way to supplement the Sask Government coffers as well as ensure we maintain our way of lives in our Great Province. Careful consideration needs to be given before making a full privatization system in Saskatchewan. As a previous restaurant and hotelier, what would the effect be to these smaller establishments in our small towns if everyone can have a private liquor store license...and who is going to monitor that they are operating ethically. Again added cost that would come with enforcement - really - more cost is not what we need. That is what I see coming from this. Similar to the Gun Registry - sounds good, but at what cost.
The idea of privatization interests me the most because of the lack of diversity and selection of alcohol available at the slga. Also the knowledge of the staff on hand in store is minimal. As someone who deals with the private import section of the slga on a daily basis, I can tell you that is extremely disorganized and frustrating to deal with.
Our prices are too high, the U.S. prices are way lower and they don't have any higher social issues than Canada. Their government still finds ways to bring in income without increasing taxes on liquor.
Close private stores& lower taxes on booze.
The liquor retailing system in Saskatchewan is fine the way it is!

Underage people already have to easy access to liquor. Thank you
I think the revenue that we stand to lose as Saskatchewan citizens is potentially much greater than any savings you hope to achieve as a result of privatizing liquor sales. What you haven't measured into your cost-benefit analysis is the loss of good stable jobs within all of our Saskatchewan communities.
Alcohol sales do not need to be opened up any more than they are now. Increasing access to alcohol via more locations and potentially lower prices would only increase use. This increased use would only exacerbate the social consequences of over indulgence such as decreased productivity due to lost work days, health problems, violence, sexual assaults, death and injury from drunk driving, as well as the social ills of extreme addiction. Alcohol should be a more tightly controlled substance that is not so widely promoted to our youth.
Profits from the sales of alcohol should 100% remain a public revenue put towards health and social programs. We need the revenue to be able to offset for the amount tax dollars being funnelled to the resources used to exhaustion by the people whom Alcohol has affected and created related social issues that tax our health and social institutions.
SK Liquor & Gaming is completely out of touch with limiting products to what they think the public wants. Allow private retailers to bring in what customers want not what SGLA thinks they want. Leave the Government run liquor stores in place but open retail business opportunities to expand the product lines available in grocery stores, convenience stores and/or stand alone privately owned business's. Duplicate Quebec. They have the SAQ which is government controlled liquor outlets. Grocery stores and convenience stores sell beer and wine all in the same area as groceries, very convenient.
I feel this is an issue long overdue but i think the decision is within the providence of the provincial government and not a ballot decision. Ballot decisions give rise to "fringe" elements from mobilising a campaign that would negatively affect undecided people. This is a business decision it has nothing to do with moral religious or social impacts.
I would like to see government liquor stores phased out as employees retire. In other words, don't hire anyone to work in a liquor store from here on in. Option #4 appears to fit what I would like to see happen.
I wish you republican types would let people make a decent living and not your pals.If there is no one left to make a decent living then this poll is of no use as no one will be able to buy liquor any way.What good is it to give the money to the owners or big business and leave the rest of us with crumbs. Minimum wage ring a bell.
I support a fully privatized system, including allowing liquor to be sold from grocery stores. I believe that the government should stay out of retailing & wholesaling liquor. Add a tax/minimum price if necessary, but allow retailers to make their own agreements with a distributor. I do believe that looking down the street & seeing 5 signs advertising different liquor stores should be avoided, either through restricting exterior signage or restricting the number of stores in a given area
Profits from an industry such as liquor should remain in Sask. for the benefit of the people of Sask.
All liquor board stores should be sold to the private sector, the government can still generate revenue from the tax on all liquor but does not need to run the stores directly. There is a lot of alcohol purchased out side of the province due to the monopoly the province has on liquor, and therefore the province receives no revenue at all.
I think prices here are high compared to what I have seen and heard of in other provinces. We expect people to make money when you provide a service/product but from reading the mark up is crazy. People will pay what you ask cause they want it but think a mark up should be more reasonable. My concerns would be if they did drop where would they pick up additional revenues as I dont buy a tonne of alcohol so I wouldn't see a huge difference out of my pocket but some would.
just allow the current off sale sites to sell any type of liquor that they choose and leave the current lb stores as is. as new stores are required allow private stores to open.
I like the variety and lower cost of wine and beer in provinces such as Alberta and B.C. At times wine of the same brand can be \$10 less per bottle. The selection of craft beer from smaller breweries across Canada is much higher in BC and Alberta.
The unionized employee factor of the current government owned stores is very costly. As always, the private sector would take this and run with it, making it successful for themselves and providing employment for many more staff in so doing. To be fair to the current government store employees, a gradual transition to the private sector would be in order. Go Saskatchewan Go !!!
I believe that private stores would not benefit this province.

Making liquor more accessible and keeping later hours would result in more domestic violence and traffic accidents. The public is also being misled as to the CHEAP pricing of products. This has been reflected through Alberta stores.
To put forth the idea that an over-paid stock shelfer is safer because they are a government employee is ludicrous. Private stores with a financial stake in compliance would be safer. Alberta has both great and crappy rip-off liquor retailers, and that's fine by me: Coke costs \$1.99 at the Co Op and 3.99 at 7-11, but you don't see Government run Soda Pop stores! On the other hand, no one is dying under the current model, so getting rid of it (which is the best idea) is not a rush-project, a simple phase out to completely privately owned (albeit provincially regulated) stores would be "swell".
It's ridiculous that our government is a retailer of alcohol and that we cannot buy liquor in the grocery stores of our major cities. I can buy wine, beer, spirits in the grocery outlets in small town SK, like Elbow and Delisle, but not in Saskatoon or Regina - how crazy is that! Let private business sell alcohol; government can still have their revenue and consumers will have more choice and convenience. Please let alcohol be sold in grocery stores. SK needs to modernize. Safety of minors and government revenues can still be maintained in a totally private system. And please don't make me journey to yet another store to pick up wine for that special supper! Families are busy enough without more travel. thanks for asking! :)
Just as with any other product that has the potential to create significantly negative outcomes, all of society - individuals, organizations, government - have a responsibility to ensure, through strong control measures, safe and proper distribution and consumption. That responsibility has to be at the forefront, not laissez-faire attitudes and not profit motives. Introducing more opportunities for a third party to enter into the equation compounds exponentially the potential for loss of control and safety. For example, there are many more news stories of people who get into trouble through their interactions with alcohol at a bar or lounge or off-sale, than at a government liquor store. I would insist on having the right people in the right place at the right time, and by that I mean qualified, trained, experienced and motivated personnel, to ensure that alcoholic products are provided to only the right people, at the right place, at the right time.
The research is unequivocal that low prices and high availability of liquor creates social and personal harms in communities. I appreciate that the government has the control to regulate the price of alcohol and the location of the stores. The direct and indirect costs of alcohol in Canada outweigh the revenue accrued and, unless SK is an anomaly, I assume it is the same in this province. Without portions of alcohol revenue going back to the government for the purposes of health care, policing etc. then that net loss is even more pronounced.
This is a question of choice which there is currently little freedom of choice. Government should not be in business and rather focus on infrastructure and public health. To me private liquor stores are well overdue and provide freedom of choice and a source of revenue to the citizens of the province. I am not concerned about the crown stores as they are out of date and inefficient. Also individuals that have social issues associated with alcohol will source it regardless, privatization will do nothing in this regard.
I don't think Saskatchewan should adopt the private liquor retailing model. Cities such as Calgary are over saturated with liquor stores and as such, I think the regulation of liquor suffers since there aren't consistent standards and policies to follow amongst establishments. If the Government is concerned about the social responsibility aspect of alcohol in the province, I think it's best to keep the SLGA stores. Expanding liquor retailing establishments will only increase the availability of alcohol and some communities are better off without more access to these products.
I went to the sobeys saskatoon location really very excited to try it. I was disappointed with the pricing it was a lot higher than the government run liquor store in my area. I was not impressed with the wine tasting station as I could only try 2 types of wine. The staff were not nearly as knowledgeable about the products as again my government operated store. Will I go back to this store? No I won't! Because of service knowledge and price. The staff at sask liquor stores are way more knowledgeable and helpful than the competition.
I don't see a reason to change. Going private will open the door to lower paying positions at the stores. The money made will not go to health care, roads etc. This is another cash grab for our government who are already making a fortune from the sale of alcohol. We are charging up to 50% and more and most of this is tax. Why fix what isn't broken!
I like the models from Quebec, USA, Mexico and Europe.
I lived in Alberta when they went with the private liquor stores, and I think that was a disaster. So many people wanted to climb on the "band wagon" and hoped to make lots of money, but it just didn't happen.
Customers should have the choice to decide where they purchase liquor. Competition provides varying prices.
I miss the system in Alberta, lots of locations, open longer hours and more selection. Privatization is the way to go, get your money through taxes. Make it easier for micro-brews and smaller companies to get their foot in the door.
Have you considered the income tax revenues that would be generated from private retailers. Would this not off-set some of the liquor tax.

You might encourage people to shop at home (SK) instead of going west (AB) or south(USA) How much costs would be saved in maintaining existing buildings, and utilities paid to operate these buildings. It is about time overpaid government employees earn a real living.
I see no need to change the current system.
I feel that we should move towards a more US or European style. I would like to have the option of picking up a bottle of wine when I do my grocery shopping, rather than search for the nearest Government run store. I travel to Ireland on a relatively frequent basis. The system they have there seems to run quite efficiently with some built in safeguards. I also live in a small community which does not have any liquor outlets other than the local hotel bar. It would be nice to be able to buy a bottle of wine rather than drive 30 minutes to the next town over.
I don't purchase very much liquor BUT when I am in alberta mostly Calgary I purchase items I want from either Costco or Superstore liquor outlets. I find the prices much better in Alberta I also feel that employees whom work in sask liquor outlets are so overpaid for what they do. Cut their wages and pass the savings onto the consumer
I support a govt that keeps liquor sales public. This is a huge cash revenue for the people of Sask. As well good jobs for the citizens. I doubt private citizens like Sobeys will be paving roads or paying healthcare costs anytime soon.
Government should regulate, not be involved in sale of alcohol.
I BELIEVE PRIVATIZED LIQUOR STORES WILL CREATE MORE JOBS FOR THE BLUE COLLAR COMMUNITY RATHER THAN TRYING TO BEAT DOWN THE DOOR OF A GOVERNMENT JOB. THE PROVINCE WILL STILL BENEFIT FROM THE CREATION OF PRIVATIZED STORES AND CAN HELP BUILD COMMUNITIES. AS TERRIBLE AS THAT SOUNDS.
Leave our crowns alone
By going the privatization rout you take away decent paying government jobs (starting in the mid to high teens) for minimum wage jobs. This creates more jobs but decreases the standard of living for those who work in the liquor industry. There are already enough low paying retail positions as it is and privatization would lower the provinces GDP per capita.
There are successful models across Canada to prove that other provinces have changed and are successful. Saskatchewan should seize the opportunity to change, rather than hold on to a system that from my experience/opinion is unpopular with the people in Saskatchewan.
should privatize the wholesale side as well
The current model works just fine. Attempting to fix something that isn't broken is fundamental in creating a disaster.
The Alberta system is the way to go. Allow for a free market to exist and the service, selection, convenience, and cost to the consumer will all improve. It is also my understanding that the provincial revenue from liquor sales has actually increased in Alberta since the switch took place in the 1990s. I don't see the downside.
Strongly support increasing number of private stores, including grocery chains. They should be allowed to open longer hours, in order to sell beer and wine at the customers convenience.
It should stay public, for public revenue.
With oil revenue set to decline, your cabinet better find ways to diversify our economy instead of pretend-ideological pet projects that transfer public wealth into friendly familiar private hands.
It would be a mistake to privatize the current system; there are and were no benefits from the Alberta model. You are only proposing taking profits never mind tax dollars out of the system. A greater plan would be to find efficiencies in your government liquor supply chain.
Product selection in Saskatchewan is terrible compared to that in Alberta and in other places where government involvement is minimized. Trying to get special orders is difficult even for bars, thus they experience difficulties in consistently stocking specialty beers that I appreciate. There is no need for government warehousing being a bottleneck to the availability of a wide selection of products.
Government should focus on policy, oversight and regulation, not operation.
Would be nice to have better selection of diffrent brands or more exotic brand as in alberta. There you can find higher end

tequila or scotch that you would normally only see in mexico or online, or in a scotch review. Its a pain when you can research a brand or here about it but not be able to get it in saskatchewan. we have no access to this locally or online as we also cant purchase it online in saskatchewan or canada from the states. This is the same for beers and the more uniqu ones or indipendat ones are becoming more popular. I think a greater selection will see people drinking more quality than quantaty. I enjoy tying new thing and when I find something realy good sharing it with friends and family. This is hard to do with the current outdated system. Why punish the majority of people that drink responsibly.
Why the government operates any retail locations for anything boggles my mind. I support SLGA being the wholesaler, but not the retailer. My view is that the government should stop creating monopolies, and stop competing (or excluding) private businesses and capitalism. Selection and price and location and hours of operation are all issues, true. The larger ones are the government controlling competition and paying employees to run stores...why is the government involved in this?
Prviateize all liquor stores!! Gov't should not be selling poison!!
Current retail system works well. Privatization only concentrates wealth in fewer (politically connected) hands. This is a boondoggle, not motivated by the public interest.
Keep the status quo but allow a few more private retailers to offer more specialty and variety. Allow price competition including a Costco outlet to provide the best prices for Saskatchewan consumers.
We have a very good system in place now. There is no benefit to changing it. The only benefit will to a small business group. This survey appears to be engineered for your desired result! So much for transparency in policy and change.
I don't believe taxes from alchohol purchases should be used to subsidize medicare or any other government program. That means that people who don't purchase alchohol don't help support programs available to all residents. That is not fair and equitable for all citizens.
I think there should be a transition phase to go from government owned to private stores. If need, there could be a few government stores left but the majority should be private. There is no need for government to be involved in the retail side of selling liquor. Let the market decide how many stores and where they should be located. The government owned stores now seem to have employees that don't really care about the customer. When it is someone's business, I believe you will see better service.
One thing missing from the discussion is how change will impact existing licensees. The opportunity for new business is great but the changes should give ALL licensees the opportunity to generate revenue opportunities by applying the wholesale discount to all. That is the best way to prevent complaint about companies from outside Sask. swooping in to gobble up liquor stores. The homegrown businesses will fill in the market need. On the other side, there is too much discussion on the number of liquor stores in a given area being regulated. The market itself will set the number that are viable in an area. Too many, and some will not have sufficient sales thus closing. Too few and someone will open new ones to fill the need. In response to the NDP's commentary that SLGA can change and improve to accommodate public desire, they've had their chance and never used it for liquor reform. There's zero reason to give them a second (or 3rd, 4th, or 5th) chance to find common sense.
I don't believe in privatizing our crown companies because sooner or later it will come back to hurt the people of Saskatchewan.
Private stores should be able to carry more selection, not only the selections that are in the government stores.
What a bias survey , you worded most questions in a way that would only support your line of thinking . People are not a naive as you think.
The government should seriously consider getting out of wholesaling liquor as well!!! Government has no business in the BOOZE business!!
Governments should not dictate this type of business. Don't put caps on stores or minimum prices. The free market will decide these things naturally and more effectively than government intervention. Sell all current government owned stores to a private buyer, and use the sale proceeds to pay down the provincial debt.
Private is never cheaper in the long run!!!
There are a lot of social ramifications to the retailing of liquor. The liquor stores should all be part of a crown corporation, so that all aspects of such sales can be controlled (as much as possible) in the general interest of all the citizens of Saskatchewan.
Grocery stores are for groceries. Liquor in stores etc will just temp people to drink more plus stores will get robbed. Since the liquor stores are already owned by the government I think they should keep on . Plus the government needs all the income they can get . Hopefully just because they are g workers they aren't being over paid like so many g workers are .

the way they spend . Never do save enough for a rainy day ! Most of the people I talk to have the same view .It would be nice if the government actually listened to the people that vote for them .
I like the liquor retail business just the way it is . The customer service in the gov't stores is beyond my expectations and I enjoy my experience when I shop there .
I strongly believe that private liquor stores would be a mistake for the province of Saskatchewan.
If you go for the RFP option then it should have a time limit and not drag past an election term.
Privatize get rid of overpaid union employees in govt run liquor stores
There should only be private run liquor stores in sask.
I fully support private liquor stores. Of further importance, however, are getting rid of the huge taxes associated with liquor sales. The "social harm" argument in favour of keeping the taxes/price of liquor high is a farce. In my line of work, I see all the time that the high price of beverage alcohol only makes those who can't afford it resort to other options - hairspray, mouthwash, etc. Those alcohols are dangerous for consumption and are not meant to be consumed as beverages. It's extremely shortsighted to think that high liquor prices actually help people - any additional government revenue does not justify it. I cannot imagine the health care costs of dealing with some of the problems people get as a result of consuming non-beverage alcohol. I would rather poor people or young people (or whoever) have access to cheap beverage alcohol that is safer to drink than have to resort to other forms of it to get their buzz. These people are going to consume it either way - whether it's a bottle of vodka or a bottle of hairspray. But right now, the government tax policies force these people into unhealthy options. And for the people who can afford it, the high prices are just an annoying cash grab by the government. Government - get your revenues from other sources leave alcohol to the private market.
We need to have a bit more of a free market. The availability of the different companies and brands should be chosen by the business based on consumers. Hours need to be expanded as to the availability. Pricing needs to be less regulated although I do see a need to help protect those who will abuse it because it is cheaper but we need to recognize price isn't the only factor in why people abuse it so why should everyone pay extra because of that? Also liquor laws need to be closer to elsewhere in the world where you can carry and drink alcohol outside of certain areas such as walking down the street or after a ball game having a beer at the diamond, however there needs to be a line to protect young kids.
Staff presently at government run stores have very little knowledge about products other than where they are in the store.I travel to Alberta regularly and purchase alcohol to bring home due to the vast price difference.
We have traveled extensively and there is no reason for the Government to be in the Liquor store business. If the Government regulates it that's enough Government involvement. To be able to buy liquor in a grocery store is very convenient there is no reason to make a special trip just to buy Liquor.
The government should not be in the liquor business. Like other business, it should be free enterprise. The inability of private stores and restaurants to carry a wide selection due to regulations, distribution issues and cost of distribution is not consumer friendly. I do not believe that by privatizing liquor stores and making it competitive that it will lead to more drinking because it is cheaper nor will young people have more access as SGEU claims. They (private stores) are just as responsible for checking for ID as the SLGA.
Better prices. More competition. And Staff that know the product. Keep the Government Stores where there needed.le rural Saskatchewan. Where the private sector would not be able to turn a profit.But they provide a service too the rural area.large City Centres leave that too private business. Let the building lease run out and close the Government stores.
Firstly, I have never spent a dollar in my life buying liquor in Saskatchewan. In saying this, I believe any proposed changes from the present status should be decided by the residents of Saskatchewan in a secret ballot referendum. That is how our forefathers decided on the present system.I do not agree with how Alberta implemented their present system, cruelly throwing many employees out of their jobs for no justifiable reason. Any changes that impact long time employees must be implemented in stages and in a fair and decent manner.
I fully support a privatized system. I care most about increased selection and reduced prices which, in my experience, are much more likely to occur in a privatized system.
Why in the hell would you privatize more? Is this the beginning of you doing stupid, ridiculous things to our Province, get a life!!!
I like using the special order desk to purchase products, but I feel that there is significant room to improve the consumer experience. I would like to be able to browse a catalogue of products, rather than having to ask about product availability for

each and every item. As a frequent patron of the system, I would also find it very convenient to be able to place orders online, start to finish rather than the current process of ordering, deposit payment, and information exchange. I would enjoy the experience much more if I could log in with my SLGA entity as an identification credential, browse a product catalogue, and place an order electronically, including a secure deposit payment transaction system.

I feel this improvement would serve the consumer, and provide ample opportunity for SLGA to expand product offerings as well as providing valuable feedback on product demand that does not rely on commercial exposure, product placement, or management guesswork. Not everyone seeking a specific product is aware of the special order system, some do not enjoy the experience of ordering, and many do not actively inquire about products which interest them.

BDL (commercial only) and retail in other provinces offer electronic cataloging/ordering systems such as this, and I feel SLGA and the consumer would both win should an implementation be made here.

Alberta did this. They lost billions in revue since. Alberta since has debate about this and even has consider slowly going back to government owned stores.

I believe that the system in place now works well in Saskatchewan. It has been my understanding that monies from the so-called sin taxes, of alcohol and other things all goes to benefit the Highways, roads, Healthcare, and education as well as other areas. The revenue from the sales of alcohol also go towards the above mentioned areas, to my understanding. Even though, the warehouse would remain within Government control and profit, retail sales help not only that fund, but also the benefit of knowing under a Government mandated liquor policy that the staff, and all involved in scope or out, are trained and act in a responsible and effective way thru the proper sales and checks of ages, not over selling when its clear that a person has had enough, and with great customer service. I feel that private enterprize will look out for their own bottom lines mostly and sales will over rule safety. Although I understand that people may tend to think that privatized stores and areas would mean better prices and such, I am happy to know that if there is lower priced items that they are usually items to bring the shopper in, a good markewting strategy only, all stores in retail services do this such a big box stores etc. I am never fooled by this. I think that there will be alot of people out of work yet again if this is to go to private enterprize as private stores will hire people, work them how ever many hours they can and probably for minimal wages. Right now, there are good paying jobs within liquor jobs and other crown jobs, lower paying jobs is going to lessen the economy more and how is this going to help our province? I think the sales of liquor should remain the same as it has been, with franchises and offsales, as well as government regulated and run liquor stores.

liquor venders have existed for years in rural saskatchewan it's about time the rest of the province realize that retail work is retail work, this is a product offered for sale and should be treated that way. Wages and pensions offered to stock boys shouldn't bankrupt the province, LBS offers a minimum wage service and their employees should be compensated accordingly

i think all selling of booze in saskatchewan should be government run as in going to none government run you will see robberies in stores and more and more problem with drunk people in a public place, Keep it the way it is and stop turning saskatchewan and canada into more and more americanised. If i wanted to live in the united states i would move

The government should privatize liquor stores. They have no business running liquor stores.

- 1) government stores are great. The only problem is how they are operated. Lack of quality craft beer and employee knowledge
- 2) storage of the beer. Unpasteurized beer needs to be kept cold and out of light. Craft beer should be in the coolers with their lights off
- 3) homebrew wine and beer should be allowed at private events at rented places such as weddings.

When you look at the numbers, the move towards privatization in Alberta and BC has not been of great benefit to consumers, despite the constant rhetoric to the contrary. While access is improved (a benefit to many, certainly) the mean costs have increased, selection is typically REDUCED and good jobs are turned into lower paying jobs. A benefit to Sobey's? Yes. A benefit to consumers? Hardly.

The government should put a priority in making as much as possible off the sale off alcohol...and keeping control over it.

The government as made buying tobacco products more difficult. I am a smoker but I do understand the reasoning behind this move. I find it strange that the government wants to make liquor easier to purchase when liquor kills as many people as smoking. I firmly believe changing the rules will hurt the people of this province.

I don't think that we need to be paying unionized workers top dollar to work at a liquor store. I think that the province should manage the ordering and distribution of alcohol but leave the actual retail side of it to private companies.

Personally I feel it should be left as status quo I see no reason public stores that just pAy their employees minimum wages and only a single person benefits. Their is nothing wrong with someone making a living wage. This government seems to have an anti wage employee agenda to benefit business

Leave things as is. If it works don't change it. The only thing citizens gain from private liquor stores is more choices nothing else.

Same price in Alberta and Saskatchewan for the same bottle of wine. Current situation has more than enough choices for me
I have been in both private stores in Saskatoon. It is comparing apples to oranges. The Co-op is the premium private - tons of products - beautiful shopping environment. The Sobeys while new and clean, does not carry as many products as a full line gov't store. Of course, they have their super sales, loss litres, on 20 products - great savings, if it's in stock... and you pay more for other products that aren't on sale (they cost less in the gov't stores). I support a few more private stores, definitely NOT the open Alberta Private style. I have shopped "Alberta's stores". You have to go to 4 different stores to get what you want as opposed to getting your 4 products at 1 gov't store. Also, this gov't needs to close more of the 75 gov't stores, the bottom 15 stores that are probably costing us money. I feel bad for the staff of those stores, but perhaps they can move into other gov't stores.
I understand not building more stores, but I disagree in handing more business to big box stores. Co-op is a retailer I could support.
no more private liquor stores. If I buy liquor I want to buy it from myself at the SLGA. Please increase the service at the SLGA to include wine and liquor specialty shops like in Ontario.
The current set up for liquor sales is adequate -if it ain't broke, don't fix it. We do not need any more minimum wage jobs in this province. Please focus on something more important to the people of this province and halt the race to the bottom...
I used to play hockey with the Regina Police Service Team as well as the RCMP team at the barracks in Regina. The comment made by officers of both Law Enforcement Agencies that if Liquor Stores in Saskatchewan ever became privatized and I quote "You can start digging graves!"
I support sales in increased number of locations. would be happy if grocery stores limited to beer/wine not hard liquor am concerned about wages of employees who sell liquor dropping to minimum wage. government should regulate liquor prices and staff wages. Should focus on eliminating waste due duplication of trying to run multiple types of liquor sales don't care if private but need regulation. was a real shame when Canada post moved postal services to convenience stores where minimum wage workers were providing postal services rather than good paying jobs
SLGA is the way to go but we need some SLGA wine shops. No more private liquor stores they only help corporations to make money not the people of Saskatchewan
The fact that it has taken us until 2014 to start seriously discussing this is silly. Government belongs in utilities, health and law....not liquor.
I feel that government should be focused on essential services rather than the retail sale of alcohol. Government control of liquor in the province strikes me as an antiquated vestige of the old temperance movement and is completely unnecessary in today's world. Taxation and laws regarding liquor should remain the realm of government but distribution should be solely the realm of the private sector.
I am in support of keeping government ran liquor stores because I do like the fact that the income is put back into the community. However, I am also a beer enthusiasts, and I feel that sask government liquor stores do not care one bit about their product. Thus leaving me at a neutral point between either keeping government ran or government ran and more privately owned liquor stores. The government liquor store workers lack passion for the product, knowledge on the product, and they also lack respect for their consumers. There is a true need for a passionate take-over on the beer selection, especially the craft beer selection. There is a need for more product, better products, and better care for the products (certain lighting can 'skunk' beer). The stores are run very lack luster concerning the beer selection. I feel that the current government run stores cater specifically to the crowds that like to drink cheap beer and a lot of it fast with the specific purpose to get drunk. Government should consider catering more to the crowds that like to drink a craft beer here or there for the taste. If government stores can turn themselves around and find some passion for their product, then I do feel that there is a true need to turn to more private locations. Cheers!
I would like to see more selection of whiskeys and bourbons like in the USA I'm tired of the same old stuff I want to explore new tastes. And I also would like it to be a bit more affordable I work all week have lots of bills and would like to enjoy my drink a few times a month a little cheaper so I can enjoy my days off and still have money for other things.
His blinded vision of destructing that upon which our Saskatchewan was built is reprehensible. I support our SLGA employees. They are knowledgeable and friendly unlike our experience with the Willow liquor store. I am a retired Saskatchewanian not associated with any union.