

really???? Care for my child and make less.
Less government involvement is a good thing. We need to shed the NDP attitude of the government controlling everything.
The profits of sales now support middle class jobs and any profits then go back to the people of Sask.. With private ownership the jobs pay less , have less benefits to employees and the profits go to private individuals and or corporations not necessarily in the province.
Been to both sobey's and coop's liquor stores. Beautiful stores especially the coop one.
I would like to see the Co-op in Estevan have an outlet and/or have beer & wine available in grocery store.
The government should maintain their revenue through taxation, but totally exit the operation of the industry. There is huge tax leakage to Alberta.
I am perfectly satisfied with the status quo.
leave thingd the way they are !
I really like the idea of purchasing liquor in the grocery store. Convenience is a big plus. A large amount of the price for liquor is a result of high wages in Gov't run stores due to unions. Grocery clerks can sell liquor as well in a lower wage structure.
I think you should keep the government based stores. Update and allow the government stores to be competitive and modern. The province benefits from the income and the customer benefits from an increased selection in a more modern environment. The government jobs are important as well. The current employees need the jobs to support their families and to be an active part of their communities.
There are plenty of other places the provincial government could increase revenue if we were to transition to private liquor. Liquor is far too expensive compared to other provinces and countries, where it is evident that a lower price doesn't correlate with increased consumption. Lower prices will allow Saskatchewan citizens to spend more money within the province and improve local economies. Additional revenue could be obtained through increased regulation of the oil and mining industries. Allowing them to maintain their profits while requiring them to meet more environmental regulations will not only increase government jobs and income, but increase work in the private sector in environmental consultancy's and allow for more job creation within a growing industry.
Saskatchewan is VERY behind the times in this area. Just returned from a visit to Alberta -- now that is a progressive place with more freedom for responsible citizens!
3. Alberta style Fully private
I am in full support of a alberta-style private retail system. It would create more choices for consumers and provide competition in terms of price for consumers to choose from. I would like to see more product selection since it would create a huge market for liquor produces and breweries from across Canada and North America. I am however dissapointed to see that the current private liquor stores in place are not providing consumers and significant discounts as opposed to other provinces. I would like to see prices considerably lower than what they are now and perhaps make it comparable in terms of prices to the rest of the country. It would also be beneficial to reduce the red tape in terms of wholesaling liquor in the province to allow more products into liquor stores at a cheaper cost. I had wanted to purchase an item that was in a flyer only to find out that other locations not in saskatchewan were selling this product. It made me frustrated as a consumer that I could not purchase what was advertised in the flyer here in saskatchewan but have to go to another store outside the province to purchase the product. In conclusion, Privatizing liquor in Saskatchewan would be the best solution than what we have now. However in order for it to really bring in gains from consumers, liquor prices needs to be competitive to other provinces, provide much more product selection, let new products enter Saskatchewan through the means of reducing the red tape in liquor wholesaling otherwise this is not going to work.
air miles like manitoba and ontario
Keep the existing govt stores as is.
It would be nice to see off sale dissappear all together. And to have retail fill that capacity. Retail is not open as late as offsale. Perhaps not providing alcohol when people are already drinking or leaving the bar may reduce alcohol related incidents.
Privatization please!!
It's time to end the government union monopolies.
Government liquor stores have improved significantly in the past 15-20 years, but the availability of craft-style beer is still not as good as it should be.

completely opposed to privatization.
Prohibition has been over for almost 100 years - so why does it seem like it never ended in Saskatchewan? Time to catch up with the other provinces. Hopefully this province will come to its senses and privatize bottle return facilities too!
I think privatizing liquor stores is nothing more than the government paying off their business friends and keeping workers wages low. Should you want to privatize liquor that bad open it up to grocery stores, Walmart, filling stations and all the rest. Otherwise leave it alone, it's not broken.
Please don't make decisions that will increase the availability of alcohol in our province. Do'nt make a short term financial decision that will reduce longer term revenue. If you have to increase the revenue, increase liquor prices. Don't sell the cow, raise the price for the milk. Consider the additional social harms in your decision making. Thank you.
I do not accept the representation that investing in liquor stores means there cannot be investment in other areas. Liquor retailing is a profit centre for the Gov't and maybe better management and entrepreneurial thinking within SLGA could grow the business and profits for the taxpayers of Saskatchewan. The Alberta experience has demonstrated that private liquor retailing cost the taxpayers money. Many of the ideologues here do not understand, or realize, that some lower pricing in Alberta has nothing to do with private retailing. Alberta had lower pricing than us before the move to private retailing because of their tax system, not because of the private stores. There is no reason SLGA cannot expand the product offerings and make it easier for individuals to get special and unique products. Adding SLGA wine boutiques and other products to grocery stores would seem like a great enhancement. SLGA may need more imagination and open mindedness, but that is no reason to throw key elements of revenue and social issue control out in the blind pursuit of ideology. My personal politics are to the right, I am a Sask. party supporter, but this is one area where, as I see it, there are no benefits, and only losses to the people of Saskatchewan. We have way more than enough problems and issues with alcohol abuse and misuse. Having some control over access is a great social benefit. Real estate holdings and great jobs in small communities can be huge benefit and stabilizing aspect in those locations. It may be worthwhile subsidizing those operations for the greater good. With the right leadership it should be easier to positively impact the customer experience with better service and greater product selection, as well as, grow profits for the taxpayers. privatizing liquor retailing is a lose, lose, lose proposition.
I would like to see lower/competitive pricing.
I would like to see nutritional labels on alcohol products. As a diabetic it is difficult to know if a product contains added sugars.
Less regulation and more private retail. Government should keep profitable stores and sell off ones that are not profitable.
There should not be any restrictions due to population. Any store that wants to sell off sale should be permitted to do so!!!!!!!!!!!!
STOP TRYING TO FIX SOMETHING THAT IS NOT BROKEN. SHAME ON THE AUTHOR WHO COMPOSED SURVEY QUESTIONS THAT FALSELY IMPLY GOVERNMENT/PUBLICLY RUN LIQUOR STORES ARE NOT PROFITABLE AND DIVERT FUNDING FROM OTHER SERVICES. THE CITIZENS OF SASKATCHEWAN DEMAND WITHOUT EXCEPTION THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO OPERATE ALL EXISTING LIQUOR STORES. STOP PRIVATIZING PUBLIC ENTITIES AND STOP WAGING WAR ON GOVERNMENT WORKERS. THERE IS NO SUPPORT FOR PRIVATE LIQUOR STORES WHOSE ACTIONS DAMAGE LOCAL ECONOMIES AND REDUCE CITIZENS' QUALITY OF LIFE BY NEVER PAYING WORKERS A LIVING WAGE. STOP DESTROYING ESSENTIAL COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOURS THAT CONSTITUTE THE FOUNDATION OF SASKATCHEWAN VALUES AND IDENTITY.
The current government policies on liquor sales have negative effects on regular consumers, who unduly bear the brunt of how restrictive liquor sales are in the province of Saskatchewan. The lack of availability of of liquor stores in specific neighbourhoods is disappointing. The inability to purchase liquor at government run liquor stores after 6pm and on Sundays is absurd to the point of almost being laughable. The lack of selection and the overpricing at government run liquor stores is problematic. I have lived in a number of cities in Canada and have travelled to most provinces and numerous states, the restrictiveness of liquor sales in Saskatchewan is unparalleled in any other province or state I've visited. Indeed, I am a young professional that is making a positive impact in my community. I find it appalling that after working a long day, helping clients or conducting research, if I happen to work past 6pm, I cannot stop in at the local liquor store to get a bottle of wine and have a glass with dinner. This needs to change because it is unacceptable that government policies impinge on my life in such a way. It is 2014 and the government is still attempting to tackle this issue, any next steps that do not loosen the restrictions on liquor sales in the province will inevitably result in this discussion becoming a perennial issue, as it has been in this province for almost 100 years. Expand sales locations, extend hours, increase selection, and reduce prices on this commodity; this is the only route to real change in Saskatchewan on this issue. The restrictiveness on liquor sales has lasted long enough.

I'm that cognac brandy costs 3 times as much here as in the states. Get with it and quit ripping me off!
competition!!!
Nice wording on the question of whether the government should continue operating existing stores that can meet targets & efficiencies (sneaky way to get out of running them)
Regina isn't just full of overweight morons slugging back 30-40 of whatever the cheapest beer available is per night (ie GW or Boh) while watching their meaningless 9 team football league anymore. There are people from other more civilized cities/provinces that have to work in Saskatchewan now and there's no reason us people with more culture shouldn't be allowed to enjoy finer beers/wines/spirits just because Saskatchewan still acts like we're living in the dark ages.
I would like to see pricing and availability rival the USA.
I believe that liquor retailing in Saskatchewan should move to a substantially privatized system. It would be great to be able to purchase liquor in all grocery stores or in fully private stores. I believe the costs of liquor in Saskatchewan are too high and if privatization can help to provide cost efficiencies, then it should move forward. I also believe the selection of liquor in Saskatchewan needs to improve substantially. And to note, I do not consume very much alcohol, maybe on average a drink every week, so I can only imagine how strongly regular consumers would feel on these issues!
Thanks
PS. Please privatize!!!
We spent years regulating and control hard liquor sales to give it up to mom and pop store where profit not morals will be the only concerns. hence we will be plagued by hard liquor to minors in the name of profits. So I would suggest the system stays as status quo. these people are there to run a service under policies and guide line and are not driven by out side managements greed.
On a side note these government stores are making a profit and sustaining there existence. if the provincial government losses this revenue they will just tax the heck out of something else
Well I'm open to privatization of a limited number of storefronts in large communities that can support the odd boutique liquor store, unless a store is not profitable in any way to the government over a period of time I strongly support keeping the majority of liquor stores government owned and operated.
The people employed by the government have given many years of service. Know their jobs well and provide excellent service within the stores. They are very diligent in asking for ID. Are the private stores as diligent? I don't believe they are.
I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE GOVERNMENT DECIDING TO PRIVATIZE THE LIQUOR STORES!!! 1) THERE IS ALREADY ENOUGH DISRUPTION IN OUR PROVINCE WITH THE OIL PRICE FALLING THE WAY IT IS WHICH IS BOUND TO INCREASE THE UNEMPLOYED AS THE OIL COMPANIES WILL HAVE TO LAY OFF EMPLOYEES, SIMPLY TO REDUCE THEIR EXPENSES! 2) IN MY OPINION IT IS SOOOOO WRONG FOR OUR GOVERNMENT (ANOTHER BIG EMPLOYER FOR OUR PROVINCE) TO BE EVEN THINKING OF SELLING THE LIQUOR STORES WHICH WILL ALSO MEAN A LOSS OF JOBS. 3) I DO NOT LIKE THE INSINUATION IN THIS SURVEY AND ALL OTHER ARTICLES I READ, THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO DISTRIBUTE MORE MONEY TO ROADS, HEALTH AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS "IF" THE LIQUOR STORES ARE SOLD! THAT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE SENSE. IF YOU SELL "OUR" MOST PROFITABLE GOVERNMENT CORPORATION, YET KEEP THE CORPORATIONS THAT ARE LOSING HUGE MONEY (such as STC), THERE JUST CANNOT BE MORE MONEY AVAILABLE TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ANYTHING!!! RIGHT NOW THE ROADS IN OUR PROVINCE ARE THE WORST IN ALL OF NORTH AMERICA WHICH SHOULD BE THE BEST WITH THE FUEL TAX AND THE LIQUOR TAX THAT WE "TAX PAYERS" ARE ALREADY PAYING... IT IS VERY SCARY TO THINK THEY WILL GET WORSE! I DO NOT WANT PRIVATIZATON OF THE LIQUOR STORES. SHOULD THAT HAPPEN, I FOR ONE AND I KNOW OF SEVERAL OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS THAT WILL ALSO CHANGE OUR VOTE IN THE NEXT ELECTION! YOU COULD KEEP THE PROFITS YOU ARE CURRENTLY GETTING AND MAKE MORE BY SELLING THE CURRENT BUILDINGS AND LEASING THEM BACK. AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN I WOULD LOVE TO BUY A BUILDING AND HAVE THE GOVERNMENT AS A TENNANT!!! JUST IMAGINE, NO MORE EXPENSES FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE, PROFIT FROM THE SALE OF THE BUILDING AND HUGE PROFIT FROM THE LIQUOR SALES! WIN WIN I WOULD SAY! PLEASE DO NOT PRIVATIZE!!!!!!
Ready availability of alcohol during extended hours and on Sundays already cause significant harm in our community - no need to increase access.

It's about time the provincial government starts moving in a progressive direction when it comes to alcohol sales. Previous governments treated the people of Saskatchewan like children, trying to ensure that we only buy certain types of alcohol, at minimum prices, only from government owned stores. The changes that were introduced a few years ago were long overdue, but we still have a long way to go before they are where they should be. There is a minimum drinking age in effect; that should be the start and end of our concern for the 'social harm' of alcohol. Price will never dictate alcoholism levels; it's ridiculous to think so. An alcoholic will drink what an alcoholic will drink, regardless of price; the only negative impact is the one created by the minimum prices instituted by the very government trying to curb social harm, as that person will spend more money on alcohol (not drink less). They will therefore have less money for groceries, housing, clothing, savings, etc. This leaves them poorer, potentially contributing to their cycle of drinking (congratulations ignorant government on contributing to the issue in your effort to apply morals to the law; when will government ever realize it is not in the business of dictating morals??). The government needs to get out of the telling us how to live our lives business and stay in the managing public safety and infrastructure business. This is the same for 'sin taxes'. People don't quit drinking or smoking because the government makes cigarettes and alcohol slightly more expensive every few years; they make a conscious decision to do so for their own personal and health reasons (these are adults remember). I commend the government for looking in to this issue, but it goes far beyond which stores are allowed to sell booze. Bob Byomen is the only person in the province with any logical reason to campaign for government run alcohol sales; if he loses this battle, it would be a terrible strike against his all too powerful, but altogether unnecessary mafia.

some of your survey questions are skewed to get the answer you want..."should government invest in more important areas instead of putting money into liquor stores? "

Expanded Government Control option would suit best. Control is so important. Government needs to continue to support training and education to government employees. Liquor laws need to be enforced so that the public is more aware that government-run liquor stores are serious and professional. Private stores prices most likely won't have lower prices, just hopeful, but not guaranteed. Selection and lower pricing can be an option with government-run liquor stores.

I think of my children and how easy it is for kids under-age to purchase alcohol now-but not from liquor stores, which have the educated staff and the policies in place-which are being enforced. For example-Check 25. Luv it. Would the private owners have these policies in place? and abide by them? Lower prices are more important to me. Government run stores can make prices competitive if they want to-giving the look of a private owned store-with different marketing strategies. Move forward with the government run stores, just make improvements. Show the public that liquor stores employ hard workers, and lower the prices, and carry the trendy products. Work harder on making that happen within the 75 existing stores by offering excellent training programs for the employees. Work on making the young generation interested in working for a great organization with benefits and inviting wages. And, give the public the impression that the liquor store employees deserve. Its sad to see that someone wants another person's job abolished, when they don't know what that employee is capable of, and that they have family to support, too. These employees work hard for their money. A lot of physical demands, and stressful mental demands.

Please don't consider privatization.

Beer and wine should be available in grocery stores, as it is in Quebec. I would also support any business (private/public) who would be able to open up shop in a mall. This makes for convenient one-stop shopping.

the province needs the money

Government should be concerned with running the province rather than regulating where and what time a product is sold. Alcohol is so much more expensive not only here in SK, but in Canada in general, when if you visit other countries you know how badly you are being taken advantage of.

all in all, i think the government should continue collecting lct tax to maintain great revenue for our province.

SLB Stores have fine selections and prices. Research shows that privatizing does not improve either one. Let's continue to pay workers well, and let revenues go to province.

My suggestion: put more of an obligation on workers to not sell to drunk people, and to report suspected bootleggers to police. Bootlegging can be stopped with some coordination.

Do what makes the most sense. There is no significant margin in liquor retailing and gov't controlled is very much worse unless the consumer pays the difference.

i think private liquor sale will generate more employment, will provide extended hours and more refrigerated products

Privatize! The government should not compete with the people who put them there. The fewer jobs in SGEU the better off for the province. The SGEU suggestion that only government employees can be trusted to sell liquor is insulting, naive and ludicrous!

I support our current layout of liquor purchasing regulations and how it is tightly monitored by government oversight. I feel that by allowing privately owned liquor retailers to operate in our province we are making it easier for the rules to be ignored. I think this will increase the access of alcohol to minors as well as there being less regulations followed by a private company compared to

a government one. The government has to answer to the public so are more inclined to follow the rules while the private sector skirts the rules to maximize profits. Its currently much easier for a minor to go to a bar and get alcohol than it is for them to buy alcohol from a liquor board store, so I think this problem would only increase with private sale. Trying to regulate multiple companies also would be much more difficult and prone to more mistakes and problems with public safety. I am strongly opposed to allowing private liquor sales to occur in Saskatchewan and hope this trial does not pass its test phase.

The Alberta model seems to work fine & makes good sense (from my interpretation of your background information). I do not support a blanket markup percentage (as we currently have), but rather appreciate that everything is available from the provincial warehouse.

I just had my parents bring me 3- 66 oz bottles of scmirnoff from Alberta. No word of a lie, the money I saved will buy me a 66 bottle here in Sask (Saved \$20 per bottle). The Alberta govt made the taxes on that sale instead of it going into the sask finance dept, and I'm A-OK with that, as I have more money left in my pocket to spend on other things.

Allowing private markets purchasing from the central warehouse will work great and still allow provincial stores, unless they sell the product at a point lower than competition & because they remain a crown corp are allowed to be bailed out by the govt.

hi there,

i believe the gov.should get out of the liquor retailing buisness,except for regulation purposes,

the liquor retailing should be left up to private retailing stores, with no limit on how many could operate in a given area.

the hours of operation should be left up to the owners of these private stores, so myself as a consumer would have better access to the product.

the gov. must get out of the liquor retailing buisness,

sell the existing gov.operated stores to the private sector, and provide regulation to the private operated stores,

also, setting a minimum price for product,in my view ,does not curtail consumption,those who want a drink will find a way to get product, regardless of price,

removing the minimum price,i feel would allow consumers a more competative market for the products they consume.

You know very well that the whole point of allowing more private sales of liquor is to make a profit. The only way to do this is to hire part time employees at minimum wage. No one can live on that wage in this province any more.

Please continue government owned liquor stores. Do not allow private outlets.

Ownership is the only way . Why fix if not broke . If it makes a profit every year and is used to fund hospitals and roads what's wrong with that. Does a employee that makes a decent wage put more in to the community than one that is payed minimum wage. I think so . The owner of private stores will not spend profits on roads and hospitals !!!

Government run liquor stores are an asset and should not be put into private hands. They generate income for the government.

Our government requires revenue and the liquor stores are a source. It makes no sense to give this away.

Liquor retail sales should not be privatized in Saskatchewan. Lowering taxes on alcohol should be the priority not privatization. Alcoholic products that are produced in Saskatchewan and exported are cheaper to purchase in other provinces than here at home. That is just wrong.

The biggest concern I have regarding liquor sales in Saskatchewan is not private vs. public. It's the costs associated with the highly regulated liquor sales laws we have here. I support both private and public liquor stores, and I believe there should be a mix, or an Alberta style system where the government still plays a role in distribution. The hours and convenience of the private stores are the greatest advantage to privatization in my eyes.

However, the main issue to be looked at should still be the cost we have to pay for our liquor here. It is unbelievable to me how certain liquor manufactured in Saskatchewan can be found for cheaper in other provinces or in the U.S.

Simply letting private retailers sell liquor, while still having the government regulate costs is not a truly privatized system. Yes, there may be more options, longer store hours, and greater convenience. But we are still paying too much for liquor in Saskatchewan due to outdated regulations and laws from past governments.

Some of the regulatory costs need to be re-evaluated. I do see the purpose of them in discouraging minors from drinking, preventing individuals from developing alcohol dependencies, and earning revenue to fund social programs. But I believe the government needs to research the correlation between alcohol prices and the rate of problem/underage drinkers and the rate of alcohol related crime. I am no expert on the matter, but I would be surprised to see if any of those factors are truly affected by liquor prices.

I am very pleased that our current provincial government is beginning to look into these matters and that they are asking for public opinion. I do believe it is important for our province to be progressive and find better ways to control liquor sales that

benefit the consumers and the province.
if you do decide to downsize it is important to keep major centres like wynard,humboldt,melfort,etc
The current system is satisfactory. More privatization means more part-time jobs at minimum wage and no benefits.
We travel to the US quite often and purchase liquor at Costco, Walmart, grocery stores, drug stores and the communities have not fallen apart. There are always way more patrons in the food section than the liquor section. Privatize to more private retailers and grocery stores ASAP!
1. One of my concerns in this discussion is for the employees; regardless of industry efforts should be made to ensure employees have access to dependable employment. An employee should have the benefit of not being worried about job security, and be properly compensated. 1a. Tangentially, governmental healthcare policies should be re-worked to include optical as well as semi-limited dental (I am agreeable towards the idea of my tax dollars going towards dental maintenance such as fillings or braces, but not whitening). 2. I am currently in favor of maintaining the current government mark-up, with one exception below in 3. I strongly believe that the number retailers within a community should be limited, with one exception below in 3. 2a. Tangentially, I would suggest the exploration of additional ways to increase public awareness of an individual's social responsibility while consuming alcohol. Such exploration may include additional education in school systems, treatment options in addition to or instead of traditional punishment in the legal system, as well as bans on an individual's consumption of alcohol if they prove themselves to repeatedly abuse alcohol. While exploring in these veins every effort should be made to not demonize the majority of the population who do drink responsibly. 2b. I am strongly of the belief that in the relatively near future marijuana will be legalized for recreational consumption. Additionally I believe that it would best if the laws and modes of distribution were more in-line with those of alcohol rather than tobacco. Indeed, I would like to see tobacco managed more like alcohol, particularly in it's manor of sale. 3. I believe Saskatchewan could benefit by encouraging the growth of microbreweries and other such producers of alcohol. This could potentially be done through allowing microbreweries a reasonable exception to the retailer limits or governmental mark-ups I suggest in 2. I believe Saskatchewan has potential to increase it's presence as an exporter of alcohol. 3a. Tangentially, I am disappointed with Saskatchewan's largely resource based economy. We have, largely, failed to process these resources before presenting them to the world market. Efforts should be made to stimulate the growth of processing industry within the province.
Private liquor sales ASAP!!
govt run the country,take required amount of liquor taxes , not own retail establishments
I feel it's most important that the revenue generated through liquor sales be used toward government programs such as education, health and roads. I would not like to see these profits funnelled toward private investors rather than the public purse. If the government markup on liquor will remain the same, I'm not sure what impetus there might be to open (or shop at) a private store - if the prices are the same, I'd rather support government programs than a private company.
The last thing we need is an Alberta-style full privatization of retail liquor sales, whether it happens quickly or is phased in. Almost everyone I've talked to thinks that privatization means cheaper liquor. I hope the Government will be honest with people and tell them this can't happen. Lower lower prices reduce tax revenue.
Provide retailers with the opportunity to be market competitive instead of using the current model of price fixing by the government. The government should get out of price gouging instead of encouraging underground moonshine operations.
Currently sask liq stores employ fairly paid cupe employees. To do away with govt stores means loss of good jobs in return for min wage garbage jobs. The owner climbs on the back of the working man. This infuriates me. I will speak out against any govt that condones this. Some private stores in bigger centres along with govt liq stores is good for variety. Also our prices here are way to high and should fall by forty percent.
Leave well enough alone.
It works very well the way it is.
I am not in any way unsupportive of government owned/operated liquor stores, but from my experience, every private liquor store I have visited is operated much better, and most importantly, have a much greater selection of product. Specifically The Willow in Regina, has an amazing selection of beer and spirits that I have been unable to find anywhere else in our province. Not only that, but the selection is constantly changing and expanding, which is a GREAT thing. Government run liquor stores seem to have an alright selection of product, but rarely expand on what they already sell. I choose to give my business to private liquor stores whenever I can for that reason. The variety of beer and liquor, as well as the frequency that the selection changes,

is the very most important aspect to me and many others, even if it does cost me a bit more.
Open up franchisee rights to bidding from private individuals// businesses in rural communities where fair competition to franchises were not available previously.
Put more emphasis on putting money back into communities and children/schools, less on how much alcohol to sell and having a large selection. Government owned has more ability to put money back into the community.
keep the revenue from liquor sales in our, the people of SK, hands. If we are making money from liquor stores, why privatize?
I have recently moved back to SK after many years in AB. I far prefer the system we have operating here over AB as there is greater care and attention given to location and operation of liquor stores. While "one on every corner" is convenient, it also attracts no end of problems. Let's be wise about this and learn from our neighbours.
I have been in Saskatchewan for 10yrs and have lived in Winnipeg for 3 yrs and grew up in Edmonton. Therefore I support a Alberta style. The raised pricing for safety purposes simply takes more money from that family. If the adult does not practise responsible drinking they will spend regardless of the price. I have always found the blank statements towards Alberta on liquor rude. Also I believe the drinking issues in this province are no better then others. I also do not appreciate that I can not get cold beer at every store which is possible in some of the smallest stores in AB. The selection is also poor and the service has been no better or worse then the stores I have visited in our neighbours on both sides. The government will still get the liquor tax which I hope would be enough. I hope there would be some savings in the employee wages.
The government markup on ALL products are totally ridiculous. Lower prices should be your priority. Pricing does not preclude use or abuse.
The majority of my friends and coworkers drive to Alberta and buy large amounts of alcohol to bring back. We pay about 60% less there (Costco and Superstore we often go to). I wish Saskatchewan would get rid of this NDP mentality with alcohol sales.
Privatize them all. The government has no business being in business.
why is liquor twice as much to buy the same item in alberta or ontario?
na
Option 5
The only two issues I see with the current system are: the extremely limited product selection and the way lower priced items are taxed much higher than those with greater base costs (eg. an inexpensive wine has a much greater percentage of taxes than an expensive bottle)
Expert opinion seems to support maintaining control of the liquor retailing system in Saskatchewan. It benefits the province in a number of ways and should not be abandoned due to an ideological stance of the current premiere and his supporters.
Unless the wholesale costs are reduced, I doubt that privatizing will net any benefit to the people of Sask. I think the current government need to think carefully these days in lite of all the other fiascos like smart meters and lean. I'd leave well enough alone and start looking like you care for the health the province instead of private business.
The problem with product availability in Saskatchewan isn't that the Government can't bring it in, it's the lack of space in the stores. If you have to carry 5 different sizes of eat type of hard liquor, you aren't able to bring in all the different types of beer and wine. To say that privatizing liquor will bring us cheaper and more diverse liquor is ultimately misleading. We may have wine or beer specialty stores privately but it will no longer be a one-stop shop for liquor needs and the last thing I want is to have to go to three different stores to get my booze no matter how close they are in prozimity to eachother. Not only that, why does it make sense for private retailers to receive the profits from our liquor sales instead of the people buying the liquor in the first place? Where do we recoup the millions of dollars in sales that go to kids sports. And what happens to those folks who work at the SLGA stores that are only qualified for that. Without a government pay scale and benefits their quality of living will be drastically reduced. Full privatization doesn't make sense.
Responsible people will always be disciplined in their alchol consumption therefore, Governmnet should focus more on health and other important stuff rather than runnig liquor stores.
A nice combination of govt and private now. Open up fully private stores (co-op) in small cities and watch all the franchise stores go broke!
I hope Sask continues to operate the liquor board stores as they do currently. It would be very sad to see that provincial revenue stop. Programs would be cut and taxes would go up. Not good.

For Government Government would have a higher degree of control over the retailing system. Government would be required to invest in new government stores to meet future demand, in addition to on-going cost of reinvestment in existing government stores. This would reduce government's capacity to invest in other public priorities.
keep the stores you have and expand the private sector. Phase out government stores over a longer period through retirement and closing of stores that need to much repair. I don't agree on closing all or any government stores in the near future as it takes away decent paying jobs and replaces them with more minimum wage jobs.
Yes twice the mention of investing in other places if the liquor are making money then they government isn't investing in them they are recieving revenue this is disgusting way to try to change peoples way of thinking by the wording. If the government needs more revenue cancel the newly created MLA's less govenment not more there is your deficite problem. A lot of these questions are so the govenment can play the percentage very poorly written.
High prices do not discourage abuse or excess. People buy liquor from other provinces and countries whenever they can because prices are not competitive in SK. Changing mindset by education is more affective than increasing prices, in my opinion. I expect that Alberta liquor misuse statistics are no different than SK despite paying %30 to %50 less for liquor. If government really wanted to affect liquor misuse, liquor would be banned.
Close all small stores and keep larger stores in larger centres open. Keep open all existing stores in Regina, Saskatoon, Price Albert, Yorkton, Lloyd, North Battleford, Moose Jaw, etc etc. close all small towns and let co-op, Sobey's, and Costco open up all new stores in these urban centres
Taxpayers need the revenue generated from the government-run liquor stores and franchises. Especially now when oil and gas royalties are down. When the current system is making a profit, why do you want to sell? Why hand it over to the private sector? They'll make all the money -- they will be paying their staff less -- taxpayers will have to subsidize their employees. Privatizing liquor is a no win situation for taxpayers of this province.
Privatization of liquor stores should not result in decreased revenues for government. Private liquor stores will like generate more revenue at a lower cost and the government can tax at an appropriate level to maintain revenues. Thank you for seeking true public opinion. The Sask government employees conducted a phone survey that was highly biased, which I ended mid-way as it was designed to misrepresent the opinion of SK residents. This survey should be discarded as it was clearly in support of maintaining union jobs. Thanks.
Other than taxes, allow free market pricing, site locations and hours of operations
I am all for privitazation in all aspects of Sask. life. Sick of being ripped of by crown corporations and government control. Alberta had the right idea back in 1988 and it has gotten better all the time.
There are several loaded statements in this survey. A less biased public consultation survey tool would build public confidence in the current review process.
THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND PRIVATE RETAIL SYSTEM. STOP FURTHER INVESTMENT IN PHYSICAL STORES. FOCUS ON RESPONSIBLE REGULATION AND WHOLESALE WAREHOUSING
While I recognize and understand a need for government regulation of liquor sales, I see no good reason for the government to be directly involved in the sale of alcohol. As the green paper points out, the status quo has evolved from the Prohibition era of nearly a hundred years ago; it's time Saskatchewan moved into the 21st Century with respect to liquor sales. Many US states allow the sale of wine and beer in grocery stores; this is convenient for the customer and I'm not aware that these jurisdictions have more serious problems with alcohol abuse than Saskatchewan. Closer to home, alcohol consumption is higher in Alberta than in Saskatchewan (as per the green paper), and yet media reports suggest that Saskatchewan has more instances, per capita, of alcohol abuse. If this is so, then neither government control of liquor sales nor the responsible pricing regime seems to be having the desired effect. At the same time, these long-standing policies give rise to less choice, less convenience and likely higher prices for those who do not abuse alcohol. The current government has already made a variety of welcome (and overdue) changes to liquor laws; in my view, it's now time to try something different and more beneficial for the responsible consumer with respect to direct retail sales. In summary, I would favour a managed transition to a fully private system, preferably including beer and wine in grocery stores and more competitive pricing.
Alcohol can lead to medical issues and therefore the revenue from these sales should flow to the province to pay these increased costs.
Please do not de-regulate alcohol sales in the province. More access is not needed. There are enough problems already.
I think the government needs to change, Saskatchewan was built on and maintained by revenues generated from the crown corporations and their thousands of employees pay taxes and generate a lot more spending than the same number of people

employed in the private industry simply because the crown employees are paid a better wage. Those same crowns keep the essentials in life affordable. The more the government privatizes crowns the more it gives away in revenue. Sure there will be some taxes generated by private industry, but that will not offset the revenue the crowns generate each year. Furthermore, private retailers main concern is Profit and they do that through cutting costs and raising prices. If they can't raise prices (cause they want to compete), they cut costs which is usually jobs, and they sure don't offer the same wages or benefit packages as the crowns, thus there will be more lower paying jobs with more privatization and thus less income taxes and less spending by those people. The only ones that will make more money will be the actual owners of the private retail outlet, and those few do not generate the same spending as many employees. The government will see less in revenue from less taxes, no crown revenue, less overall spending by consumers as they make less money, etc. If anything, the government should be creating more crown corporations with better paying jobs to look after areas of service the private sectors are failing on or do not want to be involved in. Why do we want to be Alberta, we are Saskatchewan and proud of it. Yes Alberta had it's boom, but now it is so damn expensive to live in people and industry are moving away and coming to Saskatchewan, so do we want to follow that same path and drive everyone away, I don't think so, I'm quite happy living in an affordable province, don't change that.
Changing to private liquor stores is a mistake that small stores will pay for
I moved here from Alberta 10 years ago. I am surprised it has taken this long to privatize retail liquor outlets. Make it fair so ALL small business owners can benefit from retailing Liquor. I was really disappointed that I was not allowed to open a liquor store because of the extravagant standards set for retail outlets. Totally unfair and unnecessary.
SK needs the revenue generated from alcohol sales. Do not pass the revenue to private hands that will not benefit the public in any way. Stop the privatization of many of SK public entities for your short term gain at SK citizens expense.
Selling a business that will continue making money for the government while also providing better salaries for employees and improved social responsibility for society at large seems like a substantial mistake. Opening more government operated stores attached to grocer's and other convenient locations would be nice if possible.
Be more open and get away from the hiding of liquor. It's a part of our society and life style. We do not need the government to be in an area that the market economy will monitor. Education and openness could help the teenagers thrill of drinking (often to excess).
Strippers encourage prostitution introduced to buy hotel assoc support, The NDP threw people with gambling addiction to the wolfs for same reason. hotel assoc And now in the name of free enterprise will increase liquor consumption. Why share income tax with ottawa
I should not have to wait until I go to Alberta the U.S. to buy reasonable priced booze. I disagree that I as a tax payer pay huge wages for a stocker or cashier with a pension plan and benefits
I agree with expanded liquor retailing
My biggest concern is definitely the loss of good jobs. Private stores do not support families. Private stores have less product. A few private stores for specialty product are okay but not at the expense of being able to support good government jobs. I will support government jobs before I will support one guys business where his employees all earn minimum wage and live in poverty.
Giving the profits from liquor sales to some one else makes no sense. The government should keep the profits to help with other costs.
It's time to ditch the archaic liquor regulations and allow beer and wine in grocery stores. All government run liquor stores should be gradually phased out as they need upgrades. Product should not have to be shipped through the SLGA warehouse in order to be imported into the province (let the ministry of finance audit private stores for compliance with PST remittances like any other business).
It is time we got out of the puritanical regulatory process and recognize citizens are competent and capable of making decisions for themselves. We don't regulate motor vehicles like we did in the 1930's so why still perputuae the the 1930's regulating liquor?
Reduce restrictions/limitations on number of rural liquor/beer vendors in specific areas. (i.e. Candle Lake)
Keep the status quo as is,the current system is working ok!!
Follow the same model as Alberta. Pricing included.
I believe that the privitization of liquor stores would impact the revenue we see from them, it would also eliminate livable wage jobs. Privitized stores especially the one in regina pays just above minimum wage. The problem with the goverment ran stores is that the staff are unknowledgeable about their producs, and essetially are just chashiers and stock shelves. Increase the craft beer, and craft spirits availability in the governement stores and no one would have a reason to visit the private stores. There is no substantial pricing different between the two that I have noticed.

Leave it as it is. We need all the money we can get to give back to the province to cover much needed funding for health care, roads etc
option #2
I support government regulation of alcohol in all aspects, but there is absolutely no need for government retailing these products.
I don't mind some private liquor stores since there always have been some in small towns etc. but I would vote against complete privatization. I like it the way it is now actually.
The current set up is working. Profits go back to Saskatchewan people, not businesses from out of province.
I would support the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores in the City. They should not need to have a separate building.
The liquor purchasing process in this province feels ridiculously over-regulated and the product selection at gov't run liquor stores is terrible, especially for specialty-beer drinkers. I buy everything from the Co-op liquor store in Saskatoon now.
I think this exercise is more about this government's hatred of and war on unionized labour than about improving liquor purchase options. It is a smokescreen for anti-labour attacks.
Liquor retailing needs to be modernized in the province. Open more stores to provide easier access to alcohol and reduce costs so that people are not spending a large percentage of their personal budget on consumption of alcohol. However, this may be difficult to do if the Government wants to maintain income levels to support health care, etc.
I buy beer in Alberta but still support our local brewery, Great Western. It seems stupid to me that I have to drive to Alberta to buy beer that is made in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan is losing a lot of provincial tax revenue because of this. I would gladly pay the extra 5% provincial sales tax and buy in Saskatchewan.
Want private stores.
The Wall Government is only interested in giving away all our Crowns and putting lots of Sask residents out of work! The public will be extremely sorry & financially broke after the Crowns are given away & we lose millions of dollars in revenue from our Crowns! The financial impact of privatizing crowns will be felt for eternity.
I think overcharging for premium brands (eg: single malt scotch) is an incentive for people to purchase these brands in other jurisdictions. If I can afford to purchase premium brands, I can likely afford to travel, and to stock up when I am in another province.
I would be interested in the government keeping the stores they already have, but allowing private stores to open within reason. I certainly don't want to see every tom, dick and harry opening stores nor do I want to see one on every corner. I would also like to see the government stores upgraded. Some are absolutely disgusting!! The one closest to my home I hate to go into and am thrilled to have the Co-op store to make my purchases instead. I have only been back to the Confed store once since the other one opened.
We lose out on a lot of sales because as soon as we go to Alberta, we buy it cheaper and bring it back. Government pricing is killing the industry here!! If you want to ask me more questions about my thoughts email me at
There does not need to be more hours to buy alcohol. Some places are even open Christmas Day! If people can't get what they want during the current hours - too bad for them! SK has such a high number of alcohol related offences that the province cannot make it easier and more accessible for people to drink more.
once the government sells off every thing, they will be at the mercey of the private sector whiche means goverment makes no residual profit and have no assets left. short term gain but long term disaster. look at how the constuction industry is raised the costs of road building with poor quality. also remove (any)political party's management freinds from running companies. proper QUALIFIED person!!
If the private companies can afford to put bricks and mortar into stores for profit, so can the Government. Keep the public stores for a good living wage compared to what the private stores are going to pay their employees. Don't sell out to your private 'friends'. Seriously.
I would like craft breweries and similar small businesses (wineries, distillers) to have greater ability to sell their products. For whatever reason, it seems distribution of these fine products is very limited, often to the brewers own outlet.
We should have private stores if the gov't ones stay also and limit the private ones. And why is it that the private ones can bring

in more alcohol and sell it for less than the gov't ones. Seems like the gov't is helping the private ones succeed!!!
Competition in the market place is needed. I think that if there are more stores that are allowed to operate the market will adjust to the prices they set. Having more private stores will help create more jobs.
Privatize is the only option and not regulate price.
Stay Status quo. We don't need Alcohol in Grocery stores. We don't need a Liquor store on every corner or to sell liquor all hours of the day and night.
I do not support the privatization of government liquor stores. If stores are unprofitable they need to be looked at on an individual basis.
Liquor sales in grocery stores please. American type system.
The current system has sufficient access. I am not in favor of increased availability as it encourages greater consumption which can have adverse health and social effects. Some increase in variety of products could be tested to see if profitable. Some of the questions are value-loaded to get the pre-determined response the gov't is looking for. Such as the false dichotomy of investing in public liquor stores vs other public spending. The proper comparison s/b the cost of supporting a public vs cost of private system, as we taxpayers will be paying either way. Use evidence-based decision-making and full cost-benefit analysis. If the public system brings more benefits to the province, that should be the basis for the decision, not ideology. All public infrastructure should be well-maintained, and modernized where needed, not left to run down in order to support privatization agenda.
We should stick with govt-run liquor stores--they do a good job, they provide good jobs, and they MAKE MONEY! Sure private liquor stores can be just fine--but why go there when we have a good thing going? Investment in new stores or refurbishing stores surely pays for itself--if not, the private sector sure wouldn't want to go there. Remember, liquor MAKES MONEY--why not make it for the govt? I shop private stores in BC and prices can be 20% higher--I don't want that here.
Status Quo, please. We are not Alberta - what is the government's obsession with the Alberta way of life?
I am against private liquor stores.
I think public liquor store are paid very generous wages compared to staff who care for senior and child in both public and private settings. I want the government to maintain the revenues from public liquor stores and also better fund long-term care facilities for seniors and take steps to improve the pay of early childhood educators.
would like to see dedicated area in store for local products.maybe some obvious signage for local craft beers and other local made products.
If SIga continues to operate it's outlets it should do so without legislation to restrict prices for other retailers. It's a competitive market. Let merchants decide for themselves what an acceptable profit is for their own business and compete in the market like any other merchant. Let the consumer decide who is providing the best value for the goods and services provided.
It's not broken so don't try to "fix" it.
I am strongly in favour of privatising liquor sales in Saskatchewan. Selling liquor in supermarkets and grocery stores would not increase drinking problems. I do not see why unionized government employees should be earning high wages for ordinary retail work.
Keep the way it is now,with declining resource revenue it is wise to keep the stores all under government control
Time to get out of old school thinking and come into age for Saskatchewan and within Saskatchewan More private liquor stores needed. The provincial sales tax will bring in more revenue than governments run stores do. Der. Do the math !
I support the government getting out of the retail liquor business
Thank you for the opportunity.
To much abuse of sick leave, workers comp and stress leave. If they weren't unionized they would have to actually work, overpaid they are not skilled workers.
Just leave it the way it is. we don't need any more privatisation.
Get with it Saskatchewan! So many people go to other provinces and stock up as not only is it costlier here but the selection is

much better.
Do not get away from government run stores good jobs private run stores would provide no benefits and low wages to its employees
I am in favour of an ALberta style of liquor retailing. I see no public policy reasoning for governments to be involved in liquor retailing.
I prefer government owned liquor stores because revenues go entirely back to the public purse, employees are well-paid and able to contribute to the SK economy, and the stores carry a wide variety of products compared to the private stores I have shopped at.
Don't privatize. Why the heck should private owners make huge profits and pay their employees minimum wage. The decent wages paid now to employees provide spin off to other business in our communities.
More private stores should be allowed as long as the Government limits the # of stores per population
I strongly believe that govt does not have a place in the liquor business, private retailers are the best option especially in time of restraint and budget pressures. The regulation on price has not worked well as there are numerous social issues especially in the north. Has SLGA every considered closing a liquor store where social problems persist? La Loche for example. The tax collected on liquor is too high, where we are able to buy to rigid and why deny people choice. These stores were established in a different time, many things have changed - get out if the booze business - be bold and sell the 75 govt liquor stores and get on with proving a free market environment for the people of Saskatchewan
I strongly disagree with privatization of Saskatchewan Liquor Stores. In good times it may seem insignificant but however anyone with a brain can see that the profits in liquor are significant enough to protect for our joint benefit as a society. If you privatize this revenue it is gone forever and will negatively effect this province in the years to come. It will be like how we sold off all our highway maintenance equipment at one twentieth of the value and lost are ability to do highway maintenance with our own people. We pay more and to people outside our province and forever. Why keep selling ourselves short when we don't have do!
Show some sensible leadership & go further than Alberta. It's silly to require separate buildings(like Superstore in Medicine Hat). Hawaii system is great. Wide open sale in grocery stores, etc. Let the market determine retail prices & the number & location of retailers. Don't go half way on this.
I would support a mix of private and public stores. SLGA could improve their selection, but I hope once their new distribution facility opens this will improve. I have used the special order desk through SLGA and have found it to be efficient and effective, allowing me to bring in different products that I have tried elsewhere. I do not believe that moving to an all private model would result in cheaper prices for the consumer. In fact for higher end wine I have noticed that prices in SK tend to be lower than AB or BC. I support changes in regulation to allow craft beer makers to sell their products more easily and to allow for purchases to be made directly from wineries and wine clubs. I would enjoy being able to purchase alcohol at the grocery store for convenience. I object to the repeated statement that 2 more private stores will be opening in Regina when in fact there is only one. Sobeys will be opening in the north end. Willow Park is closing their existing store when the new one opens. Regina is getting one more store, not two.
I think the government should seriously look at privately owned stores similar to Alberta and I would like to see at least bear and wine available in grocery stores. The sask government spends far too much time and money continuing with government stores.
Government should keep publicly owned liquor stores. 2 of the questions in the survey were poorly worded. They made it sound like our current government can't invest in health, education etc. if they continue to operate government owned liquor stores.
I believe the current system allows for profit to be put back into the public sector and provides well paying, secure jobs with benefits. If these employees are not knowledgeable about the products they sell then that is a training issue that needs to be addressed! I don't see the rationale for privatizing. This survey make it sound like the current system is a costly investment for the government. From my understanding we (the people of Sask) benefit from profits from liquor sales. Why would we give this away to a private individual or company???
The liquor in this province is far to expensive. Privatizing would be better for consumers convenience, pricing and selection. I wish we would adopt a Alberta style platform.
Liquor prices in this province are ridiculous. People have problems for there own reasons i should not have to pay for it.
1: I have always been served well by the employees of the current gov't liquor stores. 2: Whenever I had to order product unavailable in stores, I had satisfactory service. 3: my experiences with stores in Alta left me feeling like the employees could care less about my customer satisfaction, something some have accused the SGLC of, but I haven't witnessed.

My preferred options for our gov't going forward would be option 5. Let's use the profits here in Sask., and enhance the offerings to deter shopping elsewhere!!
I found these questions almost loaded in some degree towards privatization. Would you like more choice in what you would like for alcohol? This question is misleading in its intent as I think it is directed towards privatization. It is similar to the federal plebiscite on getting rid of the Wheat Board, that being a confusing survey. I do not think these questions will get an accurate depiction of what the Saskatchewan public would want and find this survey flawed.
Mr Wall needs to worry about health care , roads , first nation initiatives , urban infrastructure , policing, senior care and most importantly , the economy . In light of the recent drop in oil prices and the impact on the budget , the last thing he needs to do is eliminate the govt run liquor stores. Unless of course , he can prove that they are not profitable . Hard to believe that he worries about this issue yet his loud proclamation that " Saskatchewan is open for business " now means that we may not have a budget surplus ? Has he been sleeping for the past 3 years ? Leave the liquor stores as is We have more pressing matters to worry about . Unless of course we let the NDP handle after the next election
Government should get out of the retail and wholesale liquor business with its costly real estate and employee costs. The private sector can do it. The government's job is to regulate the industry and get out of the rest of the business. The sooner the better.
Strongly opposed to options 3 and 4 (fully private retail system). I like standards prices (makes shopping easier), selection more than meets my needs, and I like the government is playing an active role in the sales/distribution and earning revenue from sales - which can be reinvested into the communities. I appreciate that operating costs factor into the equation - and am in favor of exploring alternatives in those circumstances where outlets are not profitable... government kiosks in grocery stores seems like an excellent idea to me as it improves accessibility, reduces my shopping time/gas, and maintains standard prices with less operating overhead than a separate store (resulting in increased profits?).
The government should not be involved in the retail liquor business in this province
I would like to see the Government run liquor sales outlets as it results in decent paying jobs for Saskatchewan residents and profits ease the tax burden on the residents of this great province.
Go to the Alberta type liquor store set up.
Investing in government liquor stores will allow the government to invest more in the priorities of the province such as education, health care, and infrastructure. The reason is they are the most efficient option to deliver retail liquor services.
buy my booze in Alberta
I feel there are more important issues in this province than privatizing liquor stores. How about concentrating on health care, education and senior abuse in care homes. By the way, what is this survey costing the taxpayers. After the liquor stores what's next?
Why are we doing this misleading survey. There are more important issues than privatizing liquor stores. How much is this survey costing? Do you and your government really not have anything better to concentrate on? Please tell me there are other important issues you can focus on! If not this is scary.
Do it like alberta does
Coming from Ontario, I am able to see the difference between Government owned and private owned. Both have advantages and disadvantages but I find that the cost of liquor in Saskatchewan very high.
1. I see no reason why private liquor stores are inherently better than public on price or selection. It's how we choose to run them. 2. Comparing craft beers that I enjoy between Calgary and Regina, the price I pay would INCREASE if I had to purchase from a private retailer. 3. I support taxation of liquor sales, but it should be based on flat rate per volume of alcohol, not the value of the sale, i.e. it should be the same tax on a \$40 bottle of wine as a \$100.
I do believe that we need a combined buying experience for Saskatchewan. In my experience's of buying liquor from Alberta

over many years I have found that when they went to private retailers the prices were very competitive until the market shook its self out and stabalized. Today, and over the last number of years I have seen their pricing go through the roof from where it use to be. Private business is there for a reason.....profit, just like a government. I firmly believe that a combination of both would be the answer here, and a better selection of wines especially from government stores is vital too. My experiances of having to place orders for wines etc that I cannot purchase here is like pulling teeth. I have had many experiances where I do a far better job of finding product than the SLGA. I give them all the info they need, and they still can't get it right. Very frustrating!!! Overall though I feel a full blown private liquor market will not benefit us versus a combination of private and government. Pricing is important, but gouging is not fair either. We need a fair system that benefits both private, government and consumers. Pricing is the main reason for people buying in other places. Why pay \$35 to \$45.00 for a bottle of wine here when it can be had for \$20 to \$30.00 somewhere else. That is your lost revenue and some other provinces gain.
It is time to end government monopolies on alcohol sales. An open and competitive environment is the best way to serve the consumer.
The govt is losing revenue from resource's they should keep the profits generated by the govt owned stores and not give up this source of revenue to the private sector
I think all liquor stores should be privately owned. Government should get out of the retail business completely.
Keep it as is has been working very well thank you.
not good enough sale price in govt stores like the alerbta sales not sgeu high price stores.dont need to pay 30.00 for retail sales cashier
Importation of liquor from other provinces should be made less cumbersome. Consumers should be able to receive product without its having to be provincially warehoused en route.
Think the govt. has already decided, but just in case my view will be considered...
Get rid of the liquor tax and markup. Charge PST on all liquor and restaurant meals.
Keep the store structure the way it is. With privatization workers will make less money the only person who will benefit is the business man! If you like to make changes to the system allow the small players like craft brewers the ability to sell their product in government stores with less hassle.
Investing in current and any new liquor stores is just that...an investment that provides revenue for the saskatchewan people. The wages earned by current government workers is barely a living wage....the same can not be said about private companies (though some do) those that do not make a living wage further rely on the public services that our public liquor stores generate. Why even contemplate putting a ceiling on that....it is one of our surest revenue generators in the province. I am well aware that there would be revenue from private as well... But it is limited as they are pocketing a profit too. Saskatchewan has been a great place to life in large part because we look after one another....do not strip us of our ability to do so by removing/capping this revenue source that helps fund our public programming/services. I say as a proud citizen of this province.....invest more in our liquor stores.....not less. You have to spend money to make money!
Keeping the government run liquor stores is important to me because it means quality, good paying Union jobs for hard working people. If it goes private, it won't mean more competitive pricing. It will be the same (or MORE as these businesses attempt to turn a greedy profit) & be staffed by part time workers making minimum wage with no benefits or job security. The Wall gov't is enjoying a high approval rating right now but frankly, it's not due to all his party's incredible choices. Sask was due for an upturn. And it's all set to come crashing down (low oil prices anyone??). We need to keep certain things Saskatchewan.
An economic analysis should be done on each retail location (existing and new)and the decisions should be based on the choice that yields the highest return to the Province.
I think privatization is the best, not only as consumer who will be able to decide which place I choose to shop at based on service and price. The province could better use money not on entitled employees and their exceedingly high pensions but into overall betterment of cities ie updated family recreation centers/facilities this has worked very well in the province of Alberta! Again giving citizens more choices and businesses the opportunity to earn consumers money
Well if it's a good idea to turn good paying jobs to minimum wage jobs, change profits from going to all the people of Saskatchewan to big multinational corporations, sounds logical to who?
leave liquor stores government owned
Government should be in the taxing and regulation business of alcohol not the retail end of the business
We must promote all liquor made in saskatchewan and drop the hurtles for selling in sask.We must get more Great western type companies to grow here. We should reclaim our hertiage on all the old labels sold here and re-launch them. even if it takes

some tax breaks. We had at least 10 breweries in this province. Have the big brewers give up the old names. Also there should be a clause that new brewers can't be bought out by the big players ie: kokonee in crestman bc. or Pilner in PA or Calgary or Old Vienna there is many labels from the 20;s that could be re-launched. Good survey. Thank you
Leave our public liquor stores alone.
This should not be a public vs private issue. Yes currently private are providing a slightly better service than the SLGA, but current liquor laws in sask make it difficult for any consumer or brewery to have good business with Saskatchewan. Laws need to have a major overhaul. Current laws put many restrictions on regulations that it deters breweries. There should be less restrictions so breweries are more able to work with sask, and there should be incentives for sask breweries themselves to become more profitable with their home territory. With change, Saskatchewan itself can become more profitable. Change can promote Saskatchewan in a more business friendly manner, thus creating more business. I know many out of province craft breweries won't do business with sask because the way things are currently ran. Change can bring in more business with craft breweries, which will allow the sales of better beer. Selling more craft beer in province will have a great deal of consumers buying in province rather than out of provinces.
I would like a better selection. There are so many types that I would love to be able to purchase but am not able to. Some of them I can get through special order but alot of them I cannot.
Changes in AB did not lead to huge growth in revenue or consumption (per capita) nor did it make a huge difference in consumer pricing - so why even consider this question with so many other concerns that should be more important?
the slga warehousing system needs to be overhauled and private liquor stores should not have to order through the slga
Current policies are far too restrictive. Product choices and ability to adjust to what the market demands is very poor in government liquor stores. Government stores don't sell cigarettes and prescription drugs (both are regulated products), the same should be true with alcohol. Focus on more important things (healthcare, roads, education) and leave this up to the free market.
Dear SaskParty. Stop destroying our crowns and our labour force. Stop financially destroying the province.
The Alberta model is the best in Canada
I believe it is important for Government to maintain the same level of revenue from the taxation of alcohol. I enjoy drinking, but recognize that it creates lots of costs for society and this needs to be recognized.
I would like to point out that many questions on this survey are leading and make it hard to answer accurately. When discussing the revenue Saskatchewan makes on the sale of liquors, why is "maintaining" the current amount optimal? I believe that through new revisions on current laws, Saskatchewan could excel and flourish. Why not look to better than what we currently are? WE CAN DO BETTER. New laws should be in place of the old laws to allow Saskatchewan to flourish. Also, I would like to add that the concern of alcohol abuse is a total miss on this issue. People who want to abuse alcohol are going to find a way to do so no matter what. They will pay what they have to, and they will get to whatever location they need to. Due to this select group of alcohol abusers, you actually are punishing the larger group of non abusers by trying to regulate the abusers. Saskatchewan by far has the harshest alcohol laws and regulations, and yet we also have the highest rate of alcohol abuse. Obviously regulations aren't doing what you intend them to do, but I can for sure say that the regulations are making your non-abusing consumers try to buy products out of province as much as they can. How can Saskatchewan residents be loyal to a system that is not loyal to Saskatchewan?
copy the alberta model
no
The liquor laws in saskatchewan are ridiculous, why does every other province allow around us allow private sales and bigger selection and we are stuck here in the dinosaur age. you bring in "craft beer" for 3 month a year absolutely stupid
I support option #3
Is there legislation regulating the number of stores that can sell tobacco in an area? Setting prices at an intentionally high mark to prevent social harm is unfair to those who can control themselves. It hasn't stopped it so far. Does Alberta have more trouble with alcoholism? It would be interesting to see how much revenue is being lost to Alberta from those bringing items back because it's that much cheaper. I believe it is significant.
Wine, beer and spirits should be available at grocery stores for one stop convenience. Cold products should not be restricted to off-sale. Government should get entirely out of retailing.
Generally, the way the analysis is presented, and the survey is constructed minimizes the profound social impact of addiction to

alcohol and alcohol abuse in Saskatchewan. Per capita use of alcohol relative to other jurisdictions is high in Saskatchewan, and the alcohol related harm is far higher than that of any other drug. This reality should be the primary factor in this discussion, so that government can influence problematic consumption as much as possible. This goal is in conflict with the goal of maximizing choice and profit opportunity, as much demand for that as there may be. A responsible government should be more concerned with risk and harm to its citizens as with short term economic and product choice opportunities. The real analysis (real dollar and social cost) of problematic alcohol use is almost missing from the public debate, and the government's framing of the issue. Unfortunate! We should think about what we've done with tobacco--something similar in the way of social policy for alcohol is needed.
SLGA salaries are what keep me from shopping inside a govt run retail store.
I grew up in Regina, SK and have enjoyed living here through the bad and good (lately there has been a lot of good, thanks for the Wall Government). I've had a chance to do a lot of travelling over the past 6 years thanks to a booming economy which enabled me to make good money again, thanks to the Wall Government. With some of the travelling I've done, I have personally witnessed and experienced private liquor stores and have to say, I was impressed. It was ran like a business and the people there actually appreciated your business, at least it felt like that. I think it's a joke that employees in SLGA stores make \$20+ an hour and receive a pension. If it was privatized, look at the money the province would save which could be put back into other sectors that are more important. Let's keep moving the province forward and keep young professionals here. I trust whatever the Wall Government decides is the best for the province, even if that means it remains the same, although I hope it doesn't.
Minimum & social responsibility pricing should be scrapped. Instead there should be a luxury tax on ultra premium products (Dom Perignon, \$50+ 750 ml bottles of wine etc) to make up for the lost revenue. Education is the right way to reduce problem drinking, not draconian taxes on low priced drinks that unfairly effect lower and middle class people while having no effect on upper class problem drinkers. Off sales should receive the same discount as the private stores as they are the same thing as a private store since they can sell all products now. This would help bring down the extremely high prices that off sales charge in the cities. The Alberta system is best although drinks should be sold at convenience and grocery stores as well, and luxury products should have higher taxes than Alberta.
The government should Not be in the liquor business. The Alberta model seems to operate successfully and should be adopted in Saskatchewan. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to provide input.
One of the biggest issues is poor selection, and when good products are brought in, they are temporary. It feels like I'm going to a clearance store where what ever product happened to be cheap that week is brought in and will never return. I'm willing to pay premium prices for premium product, but I can't always get it.
Keep the stores govt owned.
Home made wine to be allowed at weddings etc.
Although I can appreciate the importance of the revenue generated by liquor sales in SK, if I have an opportunity to purchase liquor in another jurisdiction at cheaper prices, I always do. I am looking forward to more privatization of liquor sales in SK as well as increased product selection that privatization and competition will bring. I would definitely support liquor sales in grocery stores.
Currently. Government run liquor stores are putting revenue back into the economy, directly (employment with good salaries) or indirectly (grants and programs). Much long-term revenue will be lost if the government-run process is turned over to the private sector. I am against this privatization!
There are huge social costs involved for some people who consume liquor...and not just the obvious ones. Social dysfunction among young people really concerns me. Drinking and driving. Family breakdown. I think that the leaders of the province should LEAD...and sometimes that means not giving in to popularity polls! As a parent, I limited and sometimes blocked my children's access to those things that I knew to be harmful...that is family leadership. When they fussed about it being "unfair" and against their so called rights, I said too bad. Government should do likewise...sometimes the popular opinion comes from those with the loudest and sometimes least informed and educated voices. I believe that the government should control this substance...sale, hours, etc. And I believe that money from sales should be directly spent on paying for the damage that overuse and misuse of alcohol causes. I would extend this to other substances such as tobacco, which I feel could be sold in liquor stores where only those old enough to purchase it them have access. To the Wall government: Man up! What's next...lot of people think they should be allowed to drive 150 mph because they think it's fun.
Government doesn't have to build building to house a liquor store. They can rent space in malls and strip malls like they already do. Just a poor excuse for government part of argument.
continue with profitable government stores. I don't like to shop for liquor in a grocery store.
Having lived in five provinces and one territory as well as in Europe while working with the Federal government, it is obvious to me that SK and MB have some of the most restrictive liquor laws on the books. I currently own a house in Saskatchewan and

am a contract worker in Europe. Despite the wide-spread availability of alcohol in grocery stores, gas stations, liquor outlets, department stores, etc..., I rarely encounter someone who has over indulged. The attitude here is more liberal with respect to alcohol and not surprisingly, society adapts. I believe that SK should also liberalize their alcohol policies and to stop treating the (restricted) sale of alcohol as a social responsibility and revenue generator.
The sale of liquor needs to be strongly regulated due to a whole raft of problems. Including mainly irresponsible use of alcohol. If we increase availability of alcohol through the retail system, these problems will increase leading to an increased cost in policing, crime and on the medical system.
When I buy a bottle of wine why would I want a private store to get the profits. Keep using the revenue for Health, Education, social programs.
Keep the current system
A public & private model would be better suited as long as it is equal and not disproportionate. If it's all placed in private hands then the government better come up with a rock solid plan on health care & social programs that help our residents (eg. the homeless and people struggling with addictions as cheaper prices will lead to higher alcohol consumption on that demographic, just look at the people already busking outside government owned liquor stores begging for liquor cash - yes there will be greater revenues here but there will also be higher expenditures in a different branch of gov't)
We need a much better system for getting local products into the store.
While I would LOVE more selection of ciders, I'm nervous about the privatization of any crown. The money our stores make are so important in supporting other social services. Maybe the funding connection should be made more clear; let people know what type of programs and services they're supporting by shopping at a government owned business.
I want a better selection of products, and I don't care at all how that happens. Better selection in a government store? Great -- I'm on board with that. It doesn't have anything to do with whether or not more private locations are open. However, if liquor could be purchased at in grocery stores, I would LOVE THAT. There are so many liqueurs I would like to try that we can't get in Saskatchewan. Aperol is one of them!!!
Cost of liquor is too high . A hundred percent markup by the government is outrageous. No other company can do that when dealing with government contracts .
The current system is in the dark ages. Why can't I buy liquor at the same place I buy my groceries ?
Please keep revenue generated from liquor sales kept in this province and have it applied to our Roads, Schools and Infrastructure. If we go to a private system, this will harm the revenue that our province intakes and take away many good jobs from outstanding employees.
I would like to see alcohol sales in grocery stores. I buy wine and dislike having to run into other stores to buy it. I would like to see it available in grocery stores, particularly co-ops as that is where I shop.
I think that the government should continue to operate existing liquor stores but should be made more available at more locations and at longer hours of operation the funds it generates should then grow exponentially hopefully allowing the provincial government to remove its provincial sales tax .
The current system is ok, sometimes the selection in locations is poor. More info on products and canadian content is appreciated. Thanks
We need the government to continue to collect taxes on alcohol. legalize pot too and sell it in a LB.
My desire is for improved convenience. My preference is to reduce the amount of shopping stops I make. For example if I purchase groceries I would like to purchase liquor at the same time - through the same till, if I have to leave the building to go to another location I could care less if the person selling to me is gov't or not. I want fewer stops.
I think this survey is incredibly biased. I disagree with the opening of private full service liquor stores. Most of the questions were bating people to agree to something that has not been decided...the typical " " that this government portrays.
no comment
Leave the retail liquor process the way it is!
We are not Alberta or British Columbia - we are Saskatchewan. The government of Saskatchewan should continue to operate and open more government owned liquor stores to ensure that the proceeds can continue to be put back into government run entities and stay in the province. Prices may drop slightly due to increased competition but revenue for the government will fall sharply. The advantages do not outweigh disadvantages for switching from public to private corporations. Don't fix something if it isn't broken.

why should Government have a million dollar store in a town of a 1000 people, only Government could justify this
Sask public liquor store provide good paying jobs instead of minimum wage poverty jobs with no benefits crappy hours, its not good for our communities or families, this should be the focus and not about saving a few bucks on a box beer. private outlets will create more minimum wage jobs with no benefits. we need more living wage jobs thatll support families. People used to be able to make a living at grocery stores but sadly corporate greed has taken over and now all these jobs are poverty wage jobs with garbage benefits. No wonder employers cant get enough employees and need TFW to fill the gap. I hate seeing Sask race to the bottom. Its a shame
More franchise stores would allow small business in rural Saskatchewan to expand their business lines and help them stay open. They also create jobs for part time employees which in rural Sask. helps stay at home parents.
While I am strongly against maintaining the current policy of setting floor prices for alcohol, I am in favour of at least maintaining the current revenue from alcohol sales. I think this can be done as the current system disuades consumers from purchasing product. Our levels of consumption are so far below the national average that a small increase due to reduced pricing would not affect our social fabric and would maintain government revenue.
The government must not lose their revenue from Liquor Sales during this time of low oil prices! I don't want to see full privatization of Sask Liquor Stores!
Privatize, privatize, privatize. End prohibition once and for all, the government should NOT be in the retail business, at all.
I lived in Edmonton when Alberta privatized. Liquor stores opened up everywhere it seemed. Alcohol abus and panhandling, grew - and grew ugly. If privatized - PLEASE limit number of places one can buy alocohol within a certain area.
I think there should be private stores and less taxes on liquor. At less 30% less tax.
The gov't run and staffed stores suit my needs. Cost to consumer will not decrease at private due to tax and we need the tax revenue and the well paid gov't jobs contribute to the community. Privatization for the sake of political ideology is pointless
fully private retail
I am a Bar manager and one of Saskatchewan's few certified sommeliers. I have just recently moved back to Sask from Ontario. As a consumer and as a bar manager that purchases alcohol for my business I find the current selection and availability of products in the province very frustrating if not embarrassing. I also find the pricing on the most part to be higher in sask, which encourages stocking up on out of province trips. I believe more competition and selection will lead to more reasonable pricing. Currently it is very hard to run a bar when half of your items are "special order" which requires more effort and uncertainty of availability and delivery.
In my opinion the current system of government run liquor stores is functioning well and provides good value for the consumers and tax-payers of Saskatchewan. The revenues from liquor stores pay dividends to all residents of the province through the government programs which these funds support. It would be a shame for these profits to be shifted into the private sector. Furthermore, the jobs which are provided by the SLGA are presumably higher paying allowing workers to support a higher standard of living for their families and providing a higher taxable income for the province. I STRONGLY disagree with the implementation of a private system which may offer lower prices at the expense of worker salaries.
I do not believe that we should move towards a system such as Alberta with a larger role for the private sector. I lived in Calgary for a 12 month period in 2012-13 in close proximity to 3 private liquor stores which were highly variable in their quality: one of the stores was a very high end boutique wine outlet, one offered general liquor sales and was smaller, but of similar quality to the current government run stores in Saskatchewan and the third was very tiny, cheap and somewhat dingy. I did not find that this higher density of liquor stores did not improve my quality of life as a consumer (I do drink regularly at home) but certainly increased the visibility of alcohol in the community. With all of the social problems linked to alcohol, I strongly believe that the visibility of alcohol in our communities should NOT be increased.
While changing the structure of liquor stores in the province may offer some benefits to consumers (perhaps increased selection, lower prices and more stores with increased hours), these benefits are more than offset by the downsides (decreased government revenues from retail sales, lower paying jobs vs. careers, greater availability of alcohol in the community and perhaps a higher profile for products with social costs). In summary, there is no perfect system and our current system certainly has flaws, however the current system serves our province well and achieves a good balance between the social costs/benefits of alcohol sales and consumer demands.
I think how it is right now is just fine. I value the service I receive in SLGA stores, and support the workers in what can be a difficult job. The province benefits for liquor sales and I think it is extremely short-sighted to consider removing that revenue. Look at oil. Can we afford to loose a revenue stream when other resources are not reliable?
Keep liquor retailing as it is.
I believe the Sask.government should retain control over where and how liquor is sold. Privatized liquor stores do no-one any

good except a few "fat cat" business people.
I believe the free market is the way this needs to pan out. The fact that i find it easier to get beer from around the world than some of the great beers made here in the province is just plain wrong.
We should be encouraging foreign companies to recognize saskatchewan as a place which appreciates fine products, and enable consumers to buy to those products, rather than just making do with what the government has chosen for us!!
I would like to see the Government get rid of the min price requirement and I do not like the high taxation on off sale alcohol. Right now the private or public sales will do little to give public a better deal and Alberta makes a profit yet they are far cheaper than we are so I would like the Government to model what they are doing and give consumers a break.
Any profits from liquor should be be direct to addictions, policing and education. If the result of this process, does result in the sale of the government ownership in the liquor retailing business, then I see two options 1) the current employees be given the first option to purchase the stores 2) the more forward thinking option would be to give the liquor retailing business to the people who own it, the people of Saskatchewan. This can be done by issuing shares to each person, the number of shares a person would get would depend on the the number of years a person has lived in the province, example a 70 year old person would get 70 shares will a 19 year old person would get 19 shares. A person who only has lived in the province for two years would get 2 shares. The value of each share would depend on the number of shares divided into the value of the provincial owned stores. After a two year waiting period, these shares could be sold on the open market.
The current system of SLGA operated retail stores as the base supply is profitable, offers good employment opportunities that attracts professional and career-minded workers. I do not want to lose the government run stores, nor the province to lose the profits.
I think it's important to keep liquor sales public. The revenue goes back to the GRF, supporting our province. The staff earn a livable wage with full benefits. Private companies would continue to provide money to government through taxation, but not through the GRF - a huge reduction in income for our province. Private companies also wouldn't take care of their employees. Better paid employees help create a better economy.
Better to have a business model to match Alberta which will support buying at home rather than the entire profits from lost sales going out of province.
I believe in free enterprise and let the market decide on locations and sales.
The government doesn't invest in bricks and mortar building liquor stores, they lease the buildings. Kind of misleading, isn't it?
SaskLiquor does a great job. Great staff and shopping experience. I would love more variety though.
There are too many alcohol related issues in our province as it is. I worry about increased availability, people thinking of drinking alcohol as just another beverage without awareness or consideration for the effects when they drive, recreate, model for their children and what happens in family homes. This is a decision for very serious social consideration.
All privatization will do is increase the price so the private retailer can make more \$\$ and staff will have a wage that you can't live off of. Read up on what happened in Alberta.
I would like to be able to purchase Beer/Wine from convenience stores,gas stations, etc as one can do in the US.
When a person standing at a till serving you liquor makes more money then someone standing at a till working at Walmart that is a sad day for Saskatchewan there wages at the liquor stores are why to HIGH!!!!
Hours of operation and lack of products for purchase of the non-alcoholic variety at government stores are my biggest complaints.
I feel that Saskatchewan should maintain the the government role. The profits from Liquor should be used to help fund social programs.
Given the fact that the provincial budget has only a razor thin surplus, it would be a very bad decision to eliminate a sector that generates millions of dollars for the provincial economy. Liquor retailing should remain as it is, generating income for the province. Of the options being considered by the government, I believe an expanded government retail system would be best.
I think it high that Saskatchewan step into the 21th century, mind you in the last 6yrs we have been making small steps. Keep the wheel rolling forward.
The current system is just fine.
Govt doing a good job of regulating and retailing alcohol now. There are plenty of places to buy beer and spirits now. Don't need any new stores.

Sell off the liquor stores and keep criminal enforcement. And, sell off SGI Sask Government Insurance.
Any time the private sector is involved employee wages and benefits suffer drastically ... the rich get richer and the rest of us suffer. As for getting a good price for Saskatchewan owned assets ... not under a CONSERvative government - they'd ensure their friends and supports got the assets at fire sale prices. The Sask Party is the old Conservative party, so who in their right mind would support the decisions of a group that left this province on the verge of bankruptcy with a 15 billion dollar debt??? These are politicians not only with a US mentality, but also with a strong bond to the 'nice' rich folks who 'really care' about the rest of us. Yes, these are the 'nice folks' who care only about themselves.
Stop the race to the bottom, please. Keep a few good-paying jobs with benefits and pension for the people of Saskatchewan; you know that private liquor stores will offer none of these to their employees.
I don't feel there is any need to change to private liquor stores. The only experience I had purchasing liquor in Alberta was an extreme turn-off. The store was a disgusting hovel of a place: dark and poorly laid out, with a loose carpet laid over a broken concrete floor. This is not a pleasant shopping trip, even for Demon Rum!
We should retain government-operated liquor stores. I've been to private stores in Alberta. Their prices are in general no better than those in Saskatchewan.
I don't believe that there would be any more issues with underage access to alcohol with private stores. The government should not be in retail business.
A flat rate or a sliding scale or a maximum cap on alcohol mark ups would be a preferred option. If a study on the correlation between alcohol retail value and societal issues caused by alcohol consumption was performed, I would suspect that you would find that there probably is a much stronger association with product with an already low value versus expensive bottles of scotch/wine/craft beer. Increase the relative mark up on types of alcohol associated with abuse and high consumption to compensate for a lower mark up on more premium products that are less likely to be over-consumed and drunk responsibly. A combination of government stores and private retailers catering to the premium market (Willow Park) would be the ideal solution. I do not think the government should be gun-ho about cutting stable secure employment that pays a living wage to Saskatchewan residents that is self-funded through liquor profits. If fat needs to be trimmed, start at the top and look for efficiencies in management structure and overhead. Incentivise retirements for top wage tier employees or out-of-scope workers with excessive compensation to encourage increased youth employment.
Alcohol is by far the most destructive and dangerous drug in our society. Any move by the government to increase access or reduce prices for private profit is not in the public interest. The government run model provides decent pay and benefits to employees while the private stores will increase profits by reducing wages to workers, I see no benefit to the public in this regard.
I think if you can create revenue off of it the government should keep it as every bit helps!
I don not like the advertising that the private liquor stores are doing. We get brochures with the newspaper. I have teenagers and I don't think they need to be reading about the latest products.
Reducing government role could open up for more abuse of alchol and hit government's pocket more. I do not mind paying a little higher than what they pay in Alberta since it creates good paying job in our province and the surplus goes to treasury board for public use.
some government liquor store staff are "less than helpful or interested in being of service", while others are quite helpful...why does that exist??
Price is by far the most important factor to me. If fully private liquor retailing results in increased costs to the consumer, I don't want it...if it reduces costs, then I do. If costs are the same or roughly the same, why waste time with changes to legislation? My preference in the last scenario is that government focuses their efforts on more important issues.
I had lived in AB prior to moving to Saskatchewan. Besides the extremely highly inflated prices I find here, the choice is lacking. If I want to purchase a certain wine for example I have to purchase an entire case in order for the SLGA to even contemplate ordering it for me!!! I really dont think that the price of any bottle of liquor should decide the tax associated with it.
Once you let go; You won't get it back without a revolution.
The profits from sales of liquor in Sk. through the Liquor board go to support other public services, so they ought to continue to do so!!!
Liquor is a harmful product and the cause of much domestic and neighbourhood violence. Don't make it any easier to get liquor than it is now

Private liquor stores in Alberta have been a disaster - many are poorly run, overpriced, and have negative impacts on their neighbourhoods.
Government should maintain all stores as they will need the extra revenue due to the falling oil prices
The current system strikes a fairly good balance between access to alcohol and advancing social objectives. It also provides well paying jobs for those employed there.
we need more American beer up here.
i have also shopped at Government owned/operated liquor stores and DO recommend them to others. in some rural communities, it only makes sense to franchise out the liquor stores. there is a myth that private stores give better pricing and service - this is not true. one thing I do not see addressed in the survey is permits for special events.
Purchasing Liquor is not a necessity of life like groceries, I do not think that we need a system where one retailer tries to gain market share by cutting prices, like I have seen in other jurisdictions.
The government should not be in competition with the private sector. We are not socialists. The government should be providing services like health care and public safety. Not over taxing things that they see as harmful. Have strong laws for abuse and criminal activity but don't punish law abiding citizens.
Private is never cheaper in the long run!
I feel that it is very important to keep liquor retailing in Sask. under the direction of the provincial government. Not only did liquor privatization result in decreased revenue in Alberta, it increased social costs such as health care, welfare, policing, corrections, etc. Families count on the fair wages and benefits that SLGA employees are given and that is extremely important.
The Saskatchewan Government should not sell off its liquor stores. Having one or two specialty stores in the major centers like we do is ok. DO NOT PRIVATIZE THE LIQUOR STORES as the revenues and net earnings come back to the people of Saskatchewan.
I think we have a great system in place. It is not a bad thing to have employees with decent wages, benefits and pensions
The government has no role to play in the retailing of tobacco, alcohol or any other regulated substance. . Governments role is to regulate and monitor. No need to have high paid union jobs to do the work that could be done in many cases by special needs people.
Absolutely disagree with this survey. it is worded in a way that regardless of the answer given support is given to private hand over. Privatization has destroyed every are where it has happened. Our highways are now crap and the few we have left in the hands of the department is so ham stringed by budget limits they are impossible to maintain. Private companies see all the profit while our highways workers get to face all the public frustration. Privatization results in higher prices in every case. If the manufacturer takes their cut, then the government takes their cut and the private sector is added to take their cut on top of that. It's going to cost more period!!! This is nothing more than the government forcing the destruction of Sask infrastructure for the benefit of profiteering private enterprise again. It is morally wrong to keep twisting reality to force privatization. Conservative minded people privatized the highways. Show one single way that situation improved if you take all the highways we used to have into account instead of the handful that are left. Saskatchewan has it's own oil and it has it's own gravel yet the private sector robs the taxpayer to the point that it costs more to maintain roads here than ares of this country that have to buy the resources. Taxpayers are being scammed by private industry with the complete knowledge and support of the government. Privatization in every way is wrong. It consists of destroying or giving away taxpayer interests and forced investment to private corporations. A Few profit big time thanks to the loss by everyone else and quality falls away for good.
I do not approve of any privatization scheme!
Make improvements to government stores. Expand their hours if that is needed. Do this first. Not run down existing stores so people complain or think we need other choices. Why have sobeys make money the government should be making instead.
The Prov.Govt. should not be in the business of running liquor board retail operations that should be done by the private sector, like what is currently happening in Saskatoon and Regina.
The Government stores would work just fine for me if there were to do some of the things that the private stores are doing. Sales, fliers to inform, and tasting sessions to learn about other drinks that I may enjoy. The private stores do a better job of wanting my money rather than just providing a place for me to get booze.
i would like to be able to buy products from local producers that have been taken off the market due to government regulations
I am constantly frustrated when shopping at Saskatchewan Liquor stores that tell me they are unable to order in items that I would be able to purchase in other provinces. Private retail would have a wider ability to access outside suppliers and satisfy customers.

Time to move toward a model of less regulation and more options for the consumer.
I support the government run stores and some private stores such as small town Co-op stores that otherwise might not be viable businesses . Government jobs with unionized workers ensure a fair wage is paid out and that money finds its way back in to the local economies . What I am dead set against is letting is letting some who has to be here getting an easy ride running his own sales outlet .
In the background info, it would've been helpful to read about research on the impacts of different types of alcohol regulation. I would hope that the government is looking into that type of research in order to inform the decision-making process. My support of private liquor stores is contingent on the continuation of minimum prices and the regulation of the concentration of liquor stores within neighbourhoods. This view is due to the social harms associated with lower prices and greater accessibility of alcohol.
Honestly - tired of stocking up when I'm in Alberta or abroad. It's time to grown up as a province and give the people what they want within reason, as other Canadian jurisdictions have done.
Over the last couple of years the selection at stores has vastly improved improving the overall experience of the stores. Though the system for custom ordering as an individual is total crap. I mean who wants to just fire their visa number over a basic e-mail. I mean who the hell knows where that goes these days and is sure screams of hey don't do this you are about to have your identity stolen. I also really think that the private stores have pushed for the better select though the gov't stores should be doing this on their own!
I support gradual devolution of liquor sales to the private sector. Let's privatize and let government focus on regulation.
Managed Transition to Fully Private Retail is my choice. No need to have an SGEU member selling this category of product, but want enough regulation for safe sales, and govt revenue to be maintained...
Do not privatize. There is nothing wrong with the current system.
I believe that the government should go to a flat rate taxon liquor at the same rate as Alberta.
Continue status quo with government run liquor stores and concentrate your efforts on more important matters at hand like the availability of senior care homes in small town Sask where the majority of pioneers in this province live. Thank you in advance for reading my thoughts.
I would support a combination of public and private liquor stores and expand private stores where there is a gap in availability. I definitely support expanding selection and incorporating more craft and micro-brewery offerings. I do not believe the rhetoric about the province losing precious financial resources by having the additional private liquor stores.
Government monies could be better spent supporting the taxpayer more and the union employees less. Seems to work well in Alta and Quebec!
Govt steals business from public. Is that the business of Gov't? Cheap alcohol is nonsense compared to cheap food. Health risks on poor diet at any age. Outraged in pay of Gov't employees and specially that of CEO's. Been to the states where alcohol is sold in grocery stores. That is very convenient.
Private stores in Medicine Hat are for the most part more expensive than sask liquor stores. The only place cheaper is Costco or Super Store. So price wise private stores in Med Hat are more expensive than Sask owned liquor stores.
Employees of Government liquor stores have a 'decent' salary - which I believe all working people should have. In turn, they pay higher taxes, contribute to charities, spend more in the economy. I am against sending Saskatchewan workers into poverty while rich owners of private liquor sales take all the profit.
Saying that it will be cheaper to buy if it is private stores Look at Alberta On the regular stuff it sure is not, And all this designer brands if the want it they should have to pay for it.
Make it easier for local micro-breweries to sell their products utilizing the existing outlets. Allow grocery stores to sell liquor as long as the Sask Government is collecting the same amount of taxes.
I like the stand alone private store, such as Sobey's in Saskatoon. I do not want to see liquor sales within grocery stores, except for rural franchisers, which help a small business. Don't want to see a liquor store on every street corner like USA either.
Do not limit the number of licenses. You would just introduce a vested interest group who would bid up the price of those licenses. Liquor should be sold in grocery stores, in the aisles, like any other product.

Selling and distributing liquor is not creating value in the economy. This should be done by lower cost private retailers. Minimum pricing and tax revenue can be maintained as it has in Alberta.
Being able to order from other provinces
Lets join the rest of the world and have liquor sales in grocery stores!
A recent study at the University of Alberta indicated that the prices of commonly bought liquor products (beer, wine and spirits, were actually higher in provinces where private liquor stores were the norm. If something is working...leave it alone.
I truly support kiosks located in grocery stores but would like to see them operated by the SLGA employees. I also know that the public stores create huge revenue that is used for health, education etc etc. lets keep Saskatchewan strong and keep people making a living wage which in turn is viable money to be spent in our province and not money by private companies that line only their pockets and create only minimum wage jobs that people cannot survive on in this province I used to be proud to call home.
I lived in BC for 6 years before returning to SK. BC liquor stores in general are excellent, and I think the public stores there do a better job of stocking and marketing BC product than our stores do at marketing SK product. Furthermore... and this is a very minor point and I think this is something anyone who has ever gotten used to BC liquor stores can attest to, is that the white plastic shopping bags they place your purchases into at the til are awesome: strong, stretchy, and indestructible. If we were to move to a private system that Alberta has (which I hope we don't), is this: I hope the government here would have the good sense to limit how many liquor retailers you can have in a given area. Driving around some of the cities of Alberta, it gets a bit nauseating at times with all the "cold beer and wine" signage. It would not be a pleasant place to live if you were a recovering alcoholic.
i like the choices we have now to purchase alcohol in rural sask.
All this government is about is crony capitalism. If liquor board stores are privatized, they will just sell the franchises to their buddies from Alberta. This is not about a more competitive market, this about the govt. helping their friends and family.
I'm for the government not continuing to lose money by keeping non-profitable stores in operation. But I'm Leary about all private liquor stores and not regulating a price minimum. I'd hate to see not putting any money into regulating liquor and later having a problem with substance abuse due to abundance of cheap alcohol and easy access. Then the "burden" will shift to our already stretched out health care system.
As pro business gov't you believe in "You have to spend money to make money?" Well quit running down the SLGA stores and your coffers will be well rewarded. I do not approve of you giving the liquor revenue to govt friends. Keep it PUBLIC and profitable!! Everyone benefits
Need to feature and stock local products (ie Saskatchewan spirits and wine). But at competitive prices to encourage purchase. Also, need to axe the idiotic rules about cross border (provincial) shipment of Canadian products. We should be able to see and purchase more Canadian product. And a better system to economically order in/shipments of product from outside canada (ie wine). I like the government stores. They are consistent, organized, useful and the best system. Thanks
Trying to regulate the price of alcohol in an effort to stop people from drinking excessively has caused the addicts to turn to other substances, thereby increasing risks associated with iv drug use. I would rather my be drunk, instead of h.i.v/aids and Hep c contagious. The lesser of two evils. In this case, one can be taxed at a reasonable rate, and the other should be smash out with an awesome force. Full-privatization makes sense: more jobs, more income tax, less government employees and government buildings = less expenditures And finally, the faster money moves through an economy, the better off every one else will be.
Keep all liquor stores gov't owned and operated. And end the policy of new stores being private...there's no reason they shouldn't be publicly owned and operated since the public has to foot the cost of addressing alcohol related problems.
The government doesn't sell cigarettes or operate brothels. They should not sell alcohol either. Taxes are fine.
If me paying a dollar or two extra for a monthly purchase of a bottle means somebody makes a liveable wage and can afford to go on a vacation. I want the government to be able to control social harm.
Privatize liquor sales
The government needs to stop trying to privatize every thing as we are losing money to keep programs running And healthcare services, roads, infrastructure, are getting cut due to lack of money's. Do not privatize liquor, there will also be an increase of

abuse and accidents due to the easier assessibility to the liquid.
Any action that lessens the stranglehold that unions have on this province are positive.
The cost of alcohol in Saskatchewan is exceedingly high when compared, in particular to Alberta, but also Ontario and Manitoba. The mindset that increasing the cost of alcohol (or cigarettes for that matter) to dissuade abuse, or even use, is (presumably) misguided good intentions implemented on unfounded logic of a nanny state who has determined they know better than the people they represent. All this situation creates is a greater outflow of personal funds, leading to poverty and additional social issues, e.g. unable to purchase food, clothing for children, etc. An addict will feed their addiction, regardless. Pricing the "sins" in a manner to reduce use only diverts abusers to other avenues to achieve their ends, most notably increased risk lifestyles. The best outcome in this scenario, it is the addict who suffers, at worst it is the children of the addict who suffer. For pondering, when looking through the lens of an addict, how often does the purchase of a pack of cigarettes, or a case of beer, outweigh the need to buy pabulum...
Please do not privatize liquor stores. Upgrade the current stores with chillers. Take out cheap liquor. Keep liquor stores provincially operated.
Anything that sheds pensions and benefits from the government is a good thing.
I have always had great service in government store from people who know about the products I seek. I do not want to see changes in government liquor stores Saskatchewan needs quality jobs and Saskatchewan needs liquor profits to operate. Why do I never hear how the current government intends to replace these lost revenues, should all liquor store be privatized?
given the price point is largely fixed or influenced by govt , private retailers have their hands largely tied in being able to offer customers "deals". Seems this is all about retailing when the real conversation should be about the cost structure.
I have noted a rather stark difference in customer service between private and gov't owned liquor stores. I have always received exceptional service at our privately operated stores. However, my husband and I have seen staff behavior at the gov't operated facilities that has made us wonder why we would choose to support govt facilities... From workers complaining about having to stock a fridge, to openly complaining about their job and pay. The sense of entitlement that we have witnessed firsthand from the govt facility employees boggles the mind. My name is _____ and you may follow up with me at _____ if you would like further info on these experiences.
I would like to see the liquor stores have some stuff like Sloe Gin made by Haymans because if soak golden resins in the Sloe Gin it helps the people that have arthritis I do it and it has help me. that way you do not have to go out of province to get the Sloe Gin.i have ask at the government stores and the private liquor store and there would stock it if there could get it from the liquor commission but there can not, so please start stocking this product.
Liquor consumption to me is a bit of a luxury, not a daily occurrence. So, while i like the choices in a nice big private liquor store i really am not interested in offsale establishments or picking up a 2 4 to drink on the road. Please dont ever sell liquor and gas together, or allow that someones voucher for a supermarket can be used for booze.
1. you don't have to be an expert to sell people stuff they want 2. pricing and new item availability is what helps people find new products, also word of mouth 3. Cold beer in a convenience, grocery or drug store = good.
More product selection please, less restrictions on importing, make direct to retailer/licensee purchasing an option to improve freshness & selection. Flat tax system, and incentives for breweries/distillers.
The government should look at the kind of jobs that are generated by private retailers. More often than not we have some in a L.B.S. that it's a middle class wage earner relaxed with a lower class work. Replacing middle class jobs with more lower class ones is not good government not is it good for the economy. Use part of you profits to grow the the L.B.S.'s and build on success. Free market is a word that sounds good but the reality is that unless we regulate and be mindful of the greed and selfishness of the average person, we will simply open more people up to be exploited. Build hope. Alcohol is not a necessity.
no.
Good jobs with good pensions for working people are far more important than private sector profits.
It's time to move into the 21st century, and move away from government owned businesses that force an increase in product price.
My biggest concern with liquor sales in Saskatchewan is the lack of selection. I can go to Alberta and buy many different types of liquor that are hard to find here or impossible to get because of the regulations.
I like the way liquor is currently sold in SK. I believe the government revenues from this sector are significant and have an impact on the government's ability to invest in other services (health care , schools ...) To help the government stores be more efficient, I think private liquor stores or franchise will provide market balance and competition which drive efficiency. I believe

there should be a minimum set price for alcohol because it is a substance that can be easily abused otherwise and strain many other services such as health care and social assistance. Take care of SK, thanks
I have shopped often at private liquor stores in Alberta. I find the prices significantly higher on the products I usually purchase (wine), sometimes as much as five dollars. I strongly support keeping the status quo on liquor retailing in Saskatchewan. Thanks!
Alcohol is a poison. It is linked to many social ills including many chronic diseases like cancer and injuries from motor vehicle collisions. We should be working to keep alcohol consumption in check instead of providing more outlets in which people can purchase. If you look up the World Health Organizations Alcohol and inequities: Guidance for addressing inequities in alcohol-related harm there are lots of good recommendations for policy options regarding alcohol use.
I have experience shopping in the Alberta system. It is NOT the consumer friendly experience some would have us believe. While you can occasionally find good deals in certain outlets, product selection and customer service in individual stores is far inferior to what we find in the average Saskatchewan retail outlet. Additionally, I find the average regular product pricing to be slightly HIGHER than what I find in our own stores today. If Alberta's Model is the option the Government of Saskatchewan is proposing, count me out!
I like the option of the expanded Private Retail System but why wouldn't the government spend some money on operating and capital investments in the stores that would remain open. Wouldn't it be beneficial to improve the appearance and service at these stores to improve the customer experience and compete with the private liquor stores? If all future operational and capital costs are deferred (walk in coolers, training on customer service and product knowledge, etc), it seems like the government ran stores are set up to fail against the private liquor stores. Additionally, allow government stores to advertise so they can compete on a level playing field with private liquor stores.
I prefer the government operated liquor stores in Saskatchewan, the staff are very knowledgeable and I find the pricing and availability to be very fair. The one thing I would like to see from Private retailers is not what I have seen so far. I do not want to see liquor sales to be cheaper and more convenient, and I thoroughly believe that general alcohol sales should be run solely through government stores. What I would like to see from private stores is a more specialized selection and higher quality products; such as rare/specialty wines and import alcohols. I believe private liquor stores should be limited to niche markets.
Keep the LB stores, allow for private competition.
I REFUSE to go to a private liquor store. I have never met a more dedicated buch of employees that work extemly hard for you and you just want to throw them out to pasture.Whats next; the health system?
Government should also ease the rules to encourage local beer/spirit production and encourage sales of locally produced products through pricing. ie Craft brewing/microbrewery/brewpubs.
Most Sk Government Liquor Stores are very fancy and cost a lot to build. As a rule government labour costs are higher than the private sector, so there should be more profit for the private retailer.
Gov't needs to relax/change the laws/rules for local craftbeer and spirit production and sales to encourage the advancement of local brewers/ entrepreneurs.
SLGA employees are paid too much for what they do. I would like to see a wage/benefit comparison between the public and private retail liquor vendors.
T feel that we should keep our liquor stores as they support the government coffers. I think that they should be more marketable and updated. Sometimes you have to spend some money to make some money.
I really enjoy the Liquor Stores that are in Saskatchewan now, I would hope that people understand that if the privatization goes through that Liquor will not be cheap like Alberta, I believe Brad Wall is making everyone think that Liquor will be cheaper like Alberta which is not the case. KEEP LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC!!!!!!!
Wall should worry about the economy and saving oil revenue not with his agenda to gut the public service.
I don't mind that I have to pay more in Sask. for liquor, because I know it is going to good programs in the community- I appreciate and do brag when we are in other countries that lack some of the amenities that we have. The one thing that could be improved though is the selection of beer available. I finally see the craft beer isle growing but I would like to see more improvement. Also I'd like to see the local people producing good beer, wine and hard liquor flourish and the government liquor stores promoting them more, maybe just more prominence in a store would be good. Everyone loves local, it is super trendy, so I think government should support the success of those companies as much as they can, by whatever means possible. But I'd also like to see more selection of beers from other places too...or at least have the opportunity to special order them. Each time I email SLGA to ask if they can ship something in, it is usually not available.

I am disturbed by the lack of minorities working at slga liquor stores.
Status Quo
With a low population our province enjoys many benefits due to the whole population funding our assets such as heating and power sources. With private ownership we would never have been able to develop the whole province --- we need to support provincial assets thru' crowns and agencies such as the gov't liquor stores. Profits are poured back into local/Sask. communities rather being taken anywhere (most likely out of province).
Public stores are a safe haven for people with disabilities to work protected, unlike being forced to quit in the private sector.
It is misleading to imply that building and maintaining liquor stores is taking money away from other priorities since the liquor stores themselves are profitable. As a citizen who wants lower taxes, it makes more sense to me to provide decent paying jobs to employees who also pay taxes, as well as having a profitable government business. I do not think that wider selection of alcohol and easier availability of alcohol should be a priority of the provincial government. If someone is going to make money from the sale of alcohol it might as well be we the taxpayers.
We need to eliminate SLGA as the governing body that makes the decisions on which products to bring in, and which to ignore. We are 10+ years behind the craft beer seen (for example) as a result.
Stand alone retailers drive unnecessary costs. The U.S. has been selling liquor at grocery stores for a long time. This is convenient for shoppers and cost effective. Rural Coops and other grocery stores should be permitted to sell liquor. We have trusted the private sector to run bars and sell liquor by the glass responsibly but somehow can't trust them to sell by the bottle responsibly.
It's time to put a complete end to the control issues the Government has on Liquor. It is not the governments business on what social issues I mean might have with the cost of liquor.
Several studies as reported in the news show public stores have a greater financial benefit for the prov.
I believe that competition in the marketplace should dictate price and product selection. I have personally been frustrated when I know products are available elsewhere in Canada but can not get the SLGA to order without a ridiculous amount of forms and time. The private stores in Saskatoon are a breath of fresh air. I look forward to more opening very soon.
Private Liquor stores work well in Alberta.
The SGEU ads state the government will loose money if privatized ?? Same tax revenue and lower labor costs would increase government \$\$
We should be able to purchase alcohol in grocery stores like in the USA.
My most pressing concern is the Alberta model, of a liquor store on almost every corner. It is unsightly. Controlled placement of stores is a must, but placement must be proper. With the opening of Sobey's in Stonebridge, I now have 4 liquor stores within 5 min. driving distance of my house, more than enough. But outlying areas have only one. I do not want to see corner liquor stores popping up everywhere.
Not enough craft beer availability in the SLGA stores. Having private stores and competitive prices would eliminate lots of the cross border liquor purchases, both from alberta and US.
I strongly be leave our current system is out dated and in need of modernization. Not only for liquor store but for craft brewies and craft beer. It's pretty sad and pathetic how out dated our laws are and how long it has taken our government to even think about changing them!
Our liquor prices are so much higher than other provinces, I'd like to see the prices drop but keep the minimum drinking age at 19.
The government should not be involved in retail sales of any alcohol (beer, wine or spirits). The private sector is better equipped to meet the market demands in a more efficient manner. Gov. needs to focus on setting policy and priority.
LIQUOR RETAILING IN THIS PROVINCE REMAINS IN THE DARK AGES. PRICE, HOURS OF OPERATION, SLECTION, ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE PROBLEM AREAS WHEN IT COMES TO LIQUOR RETAILING IN THIS PROVINCE. I SPEND TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN THE USA AND HAVE ENCOUNTERED NO NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES WITH THEIR MARKETING SYSTEM. I ALSO VISIT ALBERTA ON A REGULAR BASIS AND PURCHASE MOST OF MY ALCOHOL IN THAT PROVINCE PRIMARILY DUE TO THE PRICE.
The tax on alcohol sales generates considerably, not just in Saskatchewan , but federally as well. Privatization, not only has the potential to compromise, quality as well as pricing, it also will put MORE unnecessary weight on taxpayers to make up for lost revenues.
Privatize. Save tax payers money. Or don't and cut wages and pensions....

Gov't should work to get out of the retail business and focus on taxing and regulating. Govt employees are not retail capable. They are drones for the most part, doing what they have always done. Paid too much for what they add. Stores should be consolidated and sold to operators who want to retail liquor and serve customers properly. The bit about this being unsafe is pure crap. I want to be a customer, not a statistic, when I spend money on liquor. I get better service at local gas bars than at the LBS stores.
Just leave them Government owned Brad Wall has spent and blown away the rainy day fund .. We need all the help one can generate to help seniors and health care QUIT PRIVITIZING ,, YOU pcERS HAVE RUINED OUR PROVINCE ENOUGH ..
privatize! Adopt Alberta model. Use a flat mark markup instead of the percentage based algorithm.
I live in Regina, please don't make any changes, I am happy the way things are. A Tax payer Regina Resident.
Greater beer and scotch choices are important
I believe that the private sector can do a better job of running a business than the public sector can.
I don't like the Alberta model. I am quite happy with our present model. Small towns only need one retailer and perhaps an off-sale. Young looking people should have ID.
Options 3 and 4
government should collect taxes, not selling liquor
There are many communities that already have liquor outlets in grocery stores, drug stores, insurance offices etc.
I think it is a good idea for the government to own stores, employ staff and take the profits. It also helps control prices when the private sector has to match prices with a government run organization. They write better contracts and find legal loop holes to ultimately increase prices. Almost every adult buys alcohol. Lets provide decent paying jobs and make some revenue/profit for our province. It's more stable than a natural resource.
To use an analogy, liquor is similar to oil, gas, potash etc.; the Crown owns them and will sell rights to extract and produce/process and market those natural resources. With resources, the Crown is not in the business of 'doing business' and it should be the same for liquor. My tax dollars should not be invested in brick and mortar when the private sector is more than willing to do that. With all due respect to those employed in Government stores: their job can be done by any 19 y/o (it's just a grocery store that sells liquor after all-how hard is it to stock shelves and use a cash register?). On the plus side the potential exists where private liquor stores would end up being an important work force entry level job (beats the hell out of asking if you'd "like fries with that?"). I'm certain the Government can make more money from liquor if it just took the Royalties and taxes and didn't have to spend money on overhead like staff, building capital and operation costs.
Aside from generally moving away from government stores, the government needs to change to liquor distribution model to support local craft brewers. The idea that product must be sent to an unrefrigerated warehouse before it can be sold to a retail store is rather ridiculous.
I can't imagine the government would give away profits that are currently being made (and support other programs) in order to give private business the money - instead of the public.
I think that the current system is working well. For example, I think the revenue from sales that went to public education about drinking during pregnancy and fetal alcohol syndrome were VERY important in changing public attitudes, also the drinking and driving campaigns. I do not believe that private sales would finance these and they would then be a cost to government. Another concern is the availability of alcohol to minors. Using tobacco as an example, it is obvious that private vendors are not as diligent as government employees because there are implications to their bottom line. As for price, I do not think cheap booze or easy access to it is a good thing for society.
The government should get out of buissnes of owning liquor stores.let the private sector do the owning.the money saved by not owning stores and paying people very high wages for selling liquor could be better spent in other areas such as health.The wages that are payed to liquor store employees far exceed what others are paid in the retail industry.
I like the retailing options the Gov't is considering and I don't think that status quo is on. I am a retired liquor store manager and I don't believe the Gov't has any need to be in the retail business of alcohol. I was an employee for 34 years and a manager for 25 of that. If you would like more of my thoughts I would be happy to share them.
I would rather spend my money at the government liquor board then spend it at a private store. this decision is about supporting the government workers and those jobs are important to me.
Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. I hope a decision is made in the short-term and action is taken.
While specialty stores might be ok, I don't see any point to privatizing the profit from liquor sales. Well, the point is to make a few

people rich, which inevitably makes the rest of us poorer.

The government has not done a major review of liquor retailing and distribution in Saskatchewan for decades apart from the recent regulatory review, which was a good start. Thank you for having the courage to open this dialogue to members of the public. In my estimation, liquor retailing is only one part of what needs to be reviewed. I also believe that the following needs to be reviewed: mark-up rates (which ultimately impacts price); a more thorough review of all of SK liquor regulations and policies, and their alignment to the SK Plan for Growth; a review about social responsibility that is fact based and aligns with the SK plan for growth and export expansion; policies that enable small micro producers (thank you for the recent announcement of this pending review) and further business development (opposed to policies that limit or hamper business); and looking at modernizing liquor retailing policies across all the channels (off sales, retail stores and franchise) that end the preferential treatment for different retail channels that seem to have been developed as one off's to fix the problem of the day, without a view of the long term impact. I believe that Government needs to remove themselves from retailing liquor. The other retail channels have proven beyond doubt (over decades (franchises and offsales; private stores more recently), that a paternalistic model of liquor retailing isn't necessary to ensure safe distribution of liquor. I don't consider liquor retailing part of Government's core business like social services, highways, healthcare, and education. Government can create an effective wholesale distribution model, while ensuring that there is a modern and effective regulatory framework in place to manage the distribution channel, much like what has been put in place for gaming through third parties like SGC, SIGA and bars and hotels for VLTS across SK. Although one can argue that there may be some efficiencies with the scale of distribution through the 75 stores and SLGA, one can also argue that infrastructure costs with old stores, profitable stores maintaining or offsetting less profitable stores, and maintaining a large workforce of unionized employees at high wages (for the retail sector) along with government pensions and benefits, this is not a business line that government needs to be in. If I were to choose a model for retailing, I would favour a move to a private model, with SLGA/government overseeing the distribution/wholesaling of liquor and regulation.

We were not aware that the people of saskatchewan had indicted that a change in the system was needed. Wasn't this just a propaganda campaign paid for by big grocery companies??? What I do see is that the large corporations are lobbying the government to de-regulate the environment thus making it suitable to set up shop and eventually run all the franchises out of business. This move will affect small town Saskatchewan especially the ones closer to larger centers. I believe that a status quo should be maintained.

Increase legal drinking age to 21 - too much abuse!!! Be very touch on those who are impaired while driving especially if they cause an accident, death, or are repeat offenders.

I believe this should have been privatised a long time ago, Alberta has no problem with this and still generate lots of money from the liquor tax to give to charities,etc... It will create jobs and bring in business for some smaller franchises.

I support:

- increased selection, retail locations, and hours

- social reference price

- maintain ad valorem markup, BUT remove discriminatory pricing between categories - beer, wine and spirits should be taxed at same rate

- (note the capped ad valorem costs are not listed; would prefer to see lower cap or decreasing rate on higher value purchases; more social harm is likely to come from the cheapest product, simply used as a drug delivery vehicle, rather than by high value 'splurge'/gourmet items).

- removal of preferential (flat) markup on beer

- SK should maintain current level of revenue relative to total sales (i.e. rather than maintain at least current absolute dollars (despite decreasing percentage), as was done in Alberta); this way the province captures any growth in revenue in this sector.

- additional revenues can be put towards more programs to deal with any social harms

- improve access to products from other provinces, including direct retail sales and shipping (access to boutique wineries/distilleries and craft brewers)

Note re: MADD stakeholder letter, page 4: they quote impairment-related crash deaths between Ontario (state retail) and Alberta (private retail) and imply a direct causal relationship; however the chart on page 2 shows New Brunswick (state retail) is higher than Alberta. Their other points are reasonable, and might even suggest a regressive ad valorem system (higher percentage markup at lowest price points, to prevent greatest social harm, hospital visits, impaired driving, etc.). Most alcohol abusers aren't drinking \$100 bottles of wine from boutique wineries.

Interesting that the survey doesn't ask any questions about which particular option (of the 5) is supported.

The options are also arbitrarily limiting, and a hybrid between some options would be preferred.

"Alberta-style fully private" shouldn't mean a switch to Alberta's flat markup.

I support retail sales in a grocery store, although I suppose that makes training of cashiers more difficult, and harder to enforce

age controls. At the least should allow liquor retail to be connected, but separated, with dedicated staff and cashiers. This would allow the development of specialty gourmet grocery stores, or prepared/takeaway foods, combined with specialty liquor retail in the same building; this is convenient for shoppers and also fits a natural model for the owners of such an operation ('gourmet food and drink').
When shopping in Alberta it is hard to find certain types of alcohol without going to multiple outlets to find who carries your product (specialty items) different stores carry different items.
Government Liquor stores should stay exactly like they are right now..
The people that staff the government liquor stores are arrogant.
I wouldn't want to see stores compete to sell the cheapest liquor, but it would be good to allow more private liquor retailing in dedicated stores or other retail stores.
Get Gov and unions out of Sask.
Level of taxation on booze is too high. improve availability of mail order wine and spirits
As a restaurateur, I appreciate the steps that have been taken by the government of Saskatchewan to cut a lot of the "Red Tape" for business owners. We still feel that their could be improvement in the areas of wine distribution.
Our local liquor store in Creighton, SK closes far too early on Saturdays. I think that liquor stores should be open until 9 pm on Fridays and Saturdays - they are missing out on significant revenue. Also grocery stores should be able to sell wine; it's a natural fit for the consumer.
keep govt run stores but do not increase any more outlets. we don't need more govt stores but keep what we have.
leave beverages to purveyors and concentrate on taking care of the citizens that elected you.
I agree with an expanded private liquor system.
I believe the BC model is fair to the public and private operators equally. selection, availability, price, responsibility, sustainability and profit.
Maintaining investment in this area will produce needed revenues for other important services.
Private system please
Need much more options in liquor store. Wine selection is more than disappointing.
Government should be investing in infrastructure and health care not large liquor stores. It is time to change the way government uses tax dollars.
Very happy with price, service and selection in my area. Called Regina office once with questions and found them very helpful. Moved from Alberta 6 years ago after growing up there and I like how liquor is managed here better. Much less seedy and destructive to society. Way too many liquor stores in Alberta.
Why are we always trying to change Saskatchewan into something that it is not, why is it that the people with the greatest discontent for this wonderful/ amazing province we live in have the greatest voice and if they are so discontent then why do they still live here? why does Saskatchewan have to be the same as every other province? One of the reasons we love this province we live in is because of its willingness not to be like every other province. Please leave my province alone and move if you don't like it here. Why is it that Mr. Wall wants to follow models of privatization that have proven themselves to not work in the provinces that they exist? Please fight for Saskatchewan to stay the way it is!
Provision of alcohol is, and has always been, a government service. Like most government services it migrates to the large centres as an attractant to expedite growth in those centres. An easing of restriction in rural and remote areas might help keep some rural retail outlets viable. SLA pricing keeps our prices higher on higher quality products. A flat profit per unit price might lead to higher quality products being more popular and might actually lower abuse. It certainly shouldn't increase consumption or abuse.
Get rid of the SLGA wholesale and warehousing - make it virtual. Allow growler fills from anywhere that can sell beer off-sale. Allow kids into brewpubs.
I think there is no benefit to opening private stores if they are going to have to order their liquor through SLGA. If private stores have to order from SLGA, then let's just stick with the gov't stores.
The present system provides revenue for the province. Why Change it??? "if it ain't broke don't fix it!!!"
You make money at liquor stores don't give it away!

I strongly support the status quo. My experience with privatized liquor stores is that unless you live in a large urban area, there is little product choice and product is more expensive. The preservation of good paying jobs is also important. Replacing them with minimum wage, part time jobs is not good for any community.
I live close to the Alberta border. They have better selection (Ardbeg scotch for example) at a better price than I would be able to acquire it in Saskatchewan. Guess where I go to get Ardbeg? In Saskatchewan I have to buy a case of six (special order which can take weeks) for considerably more money per bottle. In Alberta I can buy one bottle for less. If the government is going to be the only source for liquor sales they need to match what other provinces are offering and for a similar price. Or they can get out of the way and let businesses serve the consumer demand.
I feel government should not be involved in any type of retailing. I feel private enterprise is best left to operate retail sales.
keep it as it is.
Leave it as is, do not privatize any more stores. We need decent paying jobs in Saskatchewan. Currently the profits from the public stores goes back into the schools, hospitals and roads. Why give up those profits to private? What advantage to the taxpayer is there? Less government revenue means raising personal taxes, no thanks!!
Keep it public
no
Keep the liquor stores and revenue earned from them govt owned,no to privatising liquor stores,Todays LP says the provincial government is losing 4.5 billion in royalties from the drop in the price of oil why would you want to give a constant source of revenue away to the private sector when we are losing huge amounts of revenue from the falling oil prices!!
profits from alcohol sales have help sask fund the many needs of this province. Why would we want to give this profit potential to others. We already have the infrastruture and regulations inplace for the current system.Utilize\adapt current operations if change is necessary
I hope that they maintain the cap on the number of offsale outlets in a certain population base or no one will be viable.
The system of selling liquor that we have now is the way I would like to see it continue in the future.
Please leave government owned liquor stores as they are! Thank you!
Leave our liquor stores and their employees alone. The province gets a good return on its investments. Perhaps you can expand liquor store inventories to make government stores even better.
I got a flyer from SGEU which inspired me to take this survey. What they forget to realize is that the gov already invests money into Liquor that could be invested elsewhere... they simply look at the revenue and think, "oh no, less money for the public!" They also neglect to realize that SLGA has a better ROI from warehousing than retailing... which warehousing is cheaper to maintain than retailing. Leave retailing up to businesses and entrepreneurs to create a competitive market in Saskatchewan that will open up more doors for employment and grow the economy.
I have shopped in Alberta and like the process they have. The only change I would make is to be able to purchase the liquor right in the grocery store, not in an outside building.
The government maintains enough control without having sole jurisdiction over selling of liquor. Open the gate, let private retailers sell as they choose; private/franchise can follow the rules.
Saskatchewan needs to keep and increase the number of living wage jobs in Saskatchewan Liquor Stores. Having enough living wage jobs in which families can afford to live and spend time raising their children. Tired of present government getting rid of secure jobs in which families can survive on. Really Brad you are getting too high up if you can't see all the families struggling in Saskatchewan! Spend a little less time refurbishing cars and making up ditties for Roughriders matches and see how rough it is for many in this province you are so lucky to be paid so well to run!
Mostly shop at the sobeys liquor store in saskatoon for several reasons - selection, flyer specials, more cold options etc
I used to reside in Alberta, where liquor sales are privatized. The quality of my experience in Saskatchewan's publicly owned store is so much higher. Staff are better trained, knowledgeable and friendly. The prices for the products I buy is always lower than in Alberta. Please do not privatize liquor sales in Saskatchewan!
Keep it the way it is.
Why would the government sell off all SLGA stores when the annual revenue is \$350 000 000? This would never be reclaimed through taxes of private Business. Additionally the lose of high paying jobs will have a significant toll on the economy due to increased Government funding for housing and other low income subsidies. Private business would pay low wages and never account for the royalties generated by the SLGA. I would much rather see the SLGA expanded both in business size as well as capacity of all locations.

Liquor sales should remain in the goats control including retail sales
If you sell all the chickens to the wolf, don't wonder where your egg money went.
Some of these questions are obviously skewed in favour of private stores.
I believe this survey to be very flawed. The questions are biases loaded. The truth of this survey is a joke. The Government is not looking for my opinion. It is looking to make this look like a consultation. The Quance liquor store was sold to cosco last year. A flag ship of the chain. this about Bradly the selling of all the provinces assets to friends of the government for short term profits to make his budget look better on the short term. Make this a real report and make it real. This is a real issue. It is about the right selling off our investments to their friend for their personal gain and a short term gain on the books for the long term gain of the people of Saskatchewan. Tell BRADLEY to call me if the little man would likw to talk. But this just his puppet.
agood jobs in the community are important ,- not the low wages that will be paid by the private retailers
Alcohol abuse is a big problem in this province. It contributes to increased healthcare to deal with accidents and other health problems accosiated with alcohol consumption. We also spend more on policing and need to have more programs available for addiction. Making alcohol more accessible by habing it for sale in grocery stores does not make sense. Shouldn't we be making it less accessible instead of easier to purchase?
I feel the current system isn't broken and doesn't need fixing. I'm sure the government has other more important priorities than messing with a system that has served us well for many decades.
if its not broken don't fix it....Most urban stores are leased so no bricks and mortar building are required.....Ontario and Manitoba models preferred. Adding a private profit element in while maintaining gov't profits means consumers pay more-no thank you.
The current system works and brings revenue to government coffers instead of private profiteers. Leave the system as is.
I believe retailing of alcohol is not a place for government at all. There is no advantage to consumers or society by having a government employee run the cash register in a government owned building. Further, there is no reason that I as a taxpayer should contribute to the infrastructure to retail alcohol with my very infrequent buying patterns. I view alcoholic purchases as not a necessity and therefore a private enterprise should be able to cater to the market and profit from it.
Privatize all liquor sales with more competitive prices.
Given the mismanagement of the current government along with decreasing revenues, this issue should not be a priority and would cost the people of the province more than they are already paying.
I do not believe that the government has any need, nor business, being involved in the sale of liquor. The industry should be 100% privatized.
I enjoy having the ability to purchase a bottle of wine or beer at the same time as I buy the rest of my groceries.
If the government wont give up to private, start giving quantity discounts. Start offering a larger or more specific type or brands.
Keep good paying jobs instead of min wage jobs with no future.
The SGEU ads and propaganda are false and misleading.
Reduce the exorbitant levels of "sin tax" that you have placed on the product. Arbitrary high mark-ups on products (ie Tequila) make cross provincial border shopping attractive.
If this government continues on the path of privatizing, where is the shortfall in revenue going to be made up. Our taxes are high enough as it is, and our infrastructures are in need of constant repair.
Regardless of which retailer (SLGA, private stores, franchises or off-sales) sells the product to the consumer, the government collects the same mark-up. So there is no significant loss of income for the government.
The government can still maintain its current revenue by taxing the sale of liquor but it should allow the system to be fully privatized. The government still gets its cut from all the gas sold at gas stations and they are all private. Private business owners have a vested interest in not selling liquor to minors because it is bad for business. That should not even be an issue. If private businesses can refrain from selling to minors in all the restaurants and bars then they can certainly do it at a liquor store.
Liquor should be sold at all Grocery stores and Costco just like in USA.
The government should not be in Retail they should just make the rules so they make a good revenue and protect people.
Keeping govt stores keeps money in Sask, also the govt has more control of liquor to minos
I have worked in the liquor industry for 40 years and i think government run is the best. I have seen private in the united states

and there is no regulations and the money just goes in private pockets instead of bettering our province
Alcohol should be marketed through liquor dedicated outlets, not convenience stores, etc.
I support the current model where SK owned stores are available in larger centres and small franchisees are available in rural communities. As liquor is a "vice" it is an appropriate model that they are run by the Gov't and profits are returned to the Gov't for investment into programs. The Alberta model is severely flawed. Sure it would be nice to buy \$7 wine in Costco or Walmart like the USA, but that is not the way we do it, nor should do it.
If it ain't broke don't fix it!
In Sask. it is important to support the Rural communities as private outlets seek out higher profits and may abandon areas without gov't support. Current alcohol retailing works great for a small populated province such as sask.
1. Prices are too high in Saskatchewan. I agree in principle with taxing products such as alcohol and tobacco to help pay for Healthcare but a 160% mark up is overreach. Where is the tax on junk food? On soda? These products are as dammageable for one's health as alcohol. 2. Since revisiting mark ups is out of question, prices will likely remain high no matter what option is chosen. Even if prices won't change if the province chooses to follow Alberta's model, chances are there will be better accessibility and inventory. What about a full private regulated system in which the Government is not the middleman? Where retailers buy directly from producers? If the mark up (500 million in revenue) is so important for Government, it could still be implemented under such system. Is Government involved in tobacco sale? No. Are there any reasons it should be involved in alcohol sales?
I like the Alberta style
Governments do not need to be overpaying liquor store employees, nor do they need to be paying to maintain retails. That money could be better spent on Healthcare.
Privatize liquor sales, get rid of minimum pricing, any store should be able to purchase a license to sell liquor, if the sell to minors they should be fined and lose there license to sell.
I feel that the existing system, without expanding the sale of liquor by more private outlets , meets my needs. My purchases consist of higher end spirits and wines, which are unlikely to be carried by a private rural retailer.
I am in full agreement with the privatization of liquor & beers. Sooner the better. Prices here are the top of all Western (and Eastern) Canada.
I am in favor of govt run liquor store with educated employees...private liquor stores do not have good wines selection
If public liquor stores are privatized, how will the Province replace lost revenue provided to the General Revenue Fund from SLGA dividends?
Private liquor stores benefit local economies.
The govt needs to retain the profits not pass them to the private sector
I found your survey very biased
Government should not be competition with the private sector. Government should not be in the liquor business. Current government employees selling liquor have not protected the public, and that is why SK has a terrible record for drinking and driving and violence related to alcohol.
The government should seriously consider changing it's distribution system to a more virtual system so that businesses can purchase product directly from supplier. The government should also increase the amount of beer that micro breweries or craft breweries are allowed to produce.
I do not support the sale of any liquor in Saskatchewan. I support every step toward making it less and less available. The debt incurred by the accidents, fatalities, injuries and domestic violence it causes will never be recovered from selling more of it from any type of vendor. I promote entire abstinence from any intoxicating drink under any circumstance by any age or status of persons.
The private retailers are amazing - responsive, knowledgeable, and eager. The government store staff are complacent.
I feel that revenue from liquor sales is best used to educate people about the negative effects on some residents in Saskatchewan:Also tax money should help fund treatment centers. Thank You.
Sounds contradictory; but I believe in an improved 'status quo' system. Improved government retail experience, as well as

allowing for broader private investment.
No government should be involved in liquor retailing or distribution.
competition is a good thing.
I would like to see the regulations around local kraft beer change - quit inhibiting their expansion - they contribute to local economy.
whatever you decide to do please do not build extravagant building,s like the \$2000000building in north battle ford with all the expensive artwork on the brick walls.Also no one should make over a \$100,000 working there.Thanks for the opinion box!
From my experience the prices are lower in the Sask Liquor store in Lloydminster than any of the private one on the Alberta side. Furthermore the employees are better educated on the product and better paid and the profit comes back to the province to build more liquor stores, schools and bridges for all of us rather than just the store owner getting rich and paying minimum wages to his employees. Very little of the profit gets back to the province. The employees deserve better.
Government should not be in competition with private enterprise. There is no need for government sales of alcohol. The Liquor Board Stores have failed to stop underage drinking or drinking and driving or alcoholism. Time to privatize them.
I value the fact that the jobs in govt liquor stores are unionized and stable. I don't like the unregulated situation in Calgary.
Because of the way liquor is sold through government stores as it is now, government has control of consumption and laws relating to liquor. And the citizens of Saskatchewan desparayely need the income from sales of liquor. Our provincial government could not meet the replacement of infrastucture in BOOM times. Now that oil is selling at a low price, depleting income, why is it needed to bite off an important hand that is feeding them, that is, the public liquor board sales? That defies common sense. ----- Our HEALTH SYSTEM is suffering. As an example, I have not seen a medical doctor for a physical eaxm since 1977, a year after our twins were born. I phoned Prince Albert clinic last week to book an appointment, and I was informed that, "Sorry, but we are not accepting any new patients. The doctors are fully booked." There are not enough medical doctors. More funding is required to access more doctors. I pay huge taxes each year via 2 corporations as well as personal, and as a Saskatchewan citizen, I cannot access health care. I am not sick, I just thought that because I am now a senior, perhaps I should get a physical exam. It is a good thing that my health appears to be good.
I feel that we have been misslead to thinking that if we get more private liquor retailers that the pricing will be significantly reduced. However we are now being told that it will not be reduced to the level that it is in Alberta. If this is in fact the case, what is the heck is the real benefit for us as taxpayers?(Nothing) What we really are looking for is and in this order is, a true and open competitive market where the private retailer can set their own level of pricing, and increased selection. I / we are ok with the current mixed public / private system and are not interested in a private or public only system. I believe that what really needs to be accomplished is a complete overhaul of the drastically out of date SLGA regulations and this is where we need less government folks.
Have been to Sobeys in Saskatoon. Love it. Recommend it. Need more of them. Should be able to buy my liquor right in the grocery store but at least getting there now - just have to walk across parking lot.
Maintain our public liquor stores. The revenue from those public stores is vitally important to SK as it provides funds that are used for healthcare, roads, education and other important services. I've seen the private system in Alberta and it has not helped their province at all.
Private stores are the way to go. As long as they ensure ID checks are made and the stores do not look like old dumps. Regulate how many can open in an area we dont need three per block. Love the idea of grocery stores selling liquor but also think their hours of sale should be controlled. Like can not sell in grocery store on Sunday before noon. Government needs to stop treating Adults like kids. Stop worrying about strippers in bars etc. I moved here from BC in 2005 and think Government should worry about other things not being big brother. Stop being the religious preacher for the people. Enforce rules but know your place. NDP are the socialists Sask Party should not be.
This whole thing is ridiculous. The amount of money that will be lost by privatizing the liquor stores will be massive. Not to mention the impacts on communities and jobs in those communities. I guess everyone should only be allowed to work for min. Wage nowadays. Why would you ruin a guaranteed profit generator that has given money back to the taxpayers and claim the focus is on hospitals and education. Well everything is shambles right now and we need the revenue our public liquor stores are

giving us... NEWS FLASH!
I strongly believe that we need more options in rural Sask.
Privatize now!
We are not capitalists like Alberta. Dont act like grant divine. Bradley.
Generally selection in Alberta is poor at most locations. It is consolidating and there are few advantages compared to the current sask model.
status quo is my preferred option
Despite the misinformation being circulated by unions, liquor stores in Alberta offer awesome price advantages over SK. So much so our local state-run monopoly has to caution residents against 'smuggled' alcohol from our neighbours to the west. And liquor staff are too often surly and offer poor customer experiences. They have control, and they're doing your favour by letting you purchase at all. What's the opposite of customer service? That describes my experience with our store. Humour them in their rudeness and ignorance or no more liquor permits for you, and there is no alternative.
I have worked in a restaurant in Saskatoon where we could only sell uncorked wine if the shopper purchased a meal with it. The outrage and confusion from customers due to this policy made it very apparent that the government's current policies are obviously out of tune with what the average person in Saskatchewan wants.If the government had policies that were more flexible and did not restrict the consumer so greatly, I would agree with the benefit profits due to public liquor sales. That is currently not the case, however.
I would only support change that is revenue neutral for the provincial treasury. I am not willing to pay increased tax or see decreased services because of liquor store divestiture.
I think more should be done to help microbrewers of beer wine or spirits. If their product has a short shelf life or shouldn't be refridgerated they should be able to sell more direct to stores within what they believe is a distance that they feel their product will still have great quality. Also a little break, less tax for small business like this so more money is in their pocket to expand or research. I live in rural area but buy all kinds of made in Sask products, their are great people and products out their and with great policies more will come. Thanks
Make sure the net revenue is maintained. The public funded stores need to complete with the private sector. Don't build any new government funded liquor stores. If unions want to invest in them put up their own money not the public's. Lease the existing buildings back to them and let them run their own stores.
Gouvernement should not be involved where the private sector can adequately meet the needs of the consumer! Continue to tax if desired for those reasons, and continue to mandate age restrictions etc., but GET OUT OF THE RETAIL MARKETPLACE! Other jurisdictions have proven there is no need for government run stores. The arguments of the union are completely artificial and only interested in protecting the jobs. If the employees are so good, the free marketplace will provide them employment... don't need protectionism
it would be so nice to do all of my shopping for instance at costco or co-op or sobeys instead of groceries at one store and then have to drive to who knows where to get a bottle of wine for supper
don't like the idea of private owned liquor stores. I worry that with private liquor stores people in rural areas will start buying liquor in cheeper private stores. this would take needed revenue away from liquor outlets in small towns. possible causing our small town's to loose even more services.
Because of the price of liquor in Saskatchewan we purchase most outside of the country at duty free and from another province.
I support a managed transition to fully private. I worked at SLGA. Unionized store workers are over-paid, resulting in higher product prices. Selction and price are most important to me.
government shouldn't be in the business of wholesale or retail liquor sales
I am 70 yrs old and have drank occasionally when younger but now have 2-3 drinks daily before supper.I have purchased at privately owned stores outside Sask., and was very disappointed in the cleanness of the stores and the service received. They were cluttered and unorganized.
If it's not broken, don't fix it.I don't want to see private liquor stores. I like the pricing to stay equal to all areas. I would like to be able to purchase Sask brewed product at ALL liquor stores and Franchises.
Cost of maintaining unions is too high as is maintaining infrastructure. When employees are also voting citizens, the government

has a conflict of interest when dealing with union contract negotiations. In business, government must set an operational example creating a very expensive system taxpayers can't & shouldn't have to bear. Because of the red tape & union involvement, government must hire 2 people to do the work of one private retailer employee.
The survey is misleading in that Private appears to exclude Franchise, when in fact they are both private enterprises. Also I believe that the less profitable owned stores can be converted to franchise operations in some communities which would be more profitable for SLGA. But government will have to learn to make decisions based on financial analysis rather than political bias. The system in place at present is a mixture of many forms of retail, yet the perception put forward is that it is public, you need to be more upfront about that. SLGA sells liquor throughout the province at the same price to the consumer regardless to where they reside. This would change with privatization, and in many communities the prices will soar .
In order to provide a well-informed opinion, it would be beneficial to know exactly where the mark-up money goes. What programs does it support, other than running the public liquor stores?
You shouldn't have to pay more for beer that was produced in Sask at a Sask liquor outlet than you can buy it cheaper in Alberta. Example Great West products
private vendors will not be more open to selling to minors, they have families too. just because store govt run doesn't make employees more responsible than private
This is a capitalist economy so why should the government have a monopoly on any good/service for sale (SGI included)? If the government wants to monopolize a retail sector to increase public revenue then do not just stop at liquor but expand it to all retail produce (the large retailers are ripping us off and abusing their position and power, so why not the government). However be honest and do not claim to be a capitalist system, at the same time you might as well Hugo Chavez the oil industry and increase government funds as well. Whatever you do, do not have double standards.
The government would make more money if they let liquor sales be privatized because they would not have expensive fixed costs such as employees (salary and benefits) and building costs. These expenses are too high and the government would be better to let private companies own these expenses.
Alcohol has many risks to the health of individuals in our society, government involvement is necessary to keep those risks lowered. Privatization would increase those risks and costs as would have increase the monitoring of private retailers.
I would like the option of buying liquor in grocery stores, as well as dedicated stores. Government will still get revenue from the taxes on liquor sales.
Liquor retailing in Saskatchewan, especially for wine is near pathetic. The limitations on variety make choice of product ultra limited. I grew up purchasing from LCBO, have experienced the open market concept in Alberta, and also have seen different policies in different countries (Australia and Chile), both are major wine growers and allow free flow. The fact that Canada has opened the ability for wine producers in Canada to ship across provincial borders, is lost on residents of Saskatchewan as we have not embraced such ability whether by unwilling to change laws or step into modern times. I further think that as a consumer, it is not fair to fund social programs on my back. If you need more money for infrastructure or health care or education , then raise taxes for everyone, but don't make it a consumer tax. We can do better. We can enter the new century with arms open, not with our heads in the sand missing the rest of the country pass us by.
I think let the private sector worry about where to build stores and how to price product. Government can tax and make revenue that way. With increased sales due to increased availability of product the government should maintain revenue through tax dollars. Privatizing liquor sales would also create jobs as more stores will open.
Having had the experience of purchasing beverage alcohol in Alberta and in Britain, particularly in grocery stores, I favour option 3: Alberta-style Fully Private Retail System.
I have lived through the Alberta experience. Need I say more! Look at more small businesses in rural communities and less corp. entities.
It is too bad that in order to protect the tax revenue for the government, the businesses have to spend a lot, for the safety of cigarettes and liquor and their property .
The newly constructed oversized store in Yorkton was a huge waste of taxpayers dollars. To eliminate waste a right wing government must turn this over to the private sector where it belongs. Stand by the majority who voted you into office.
How is liquor retail a core business of government? It is not a service that citizens need government to provide. Let private business handle it and SLGA stick to regulation. Reduce the footprint of government by 750 jobs. There is no reason why retail employees should be public servants earning unionized wages. Turn all of it to the private sector to create jobs and stick to social services and infrastructure citizens need - schools, roads, hospitals. Liquor is a luxury, not a public service.

Please Privatize!
This is somewhat skewed survey. It assumes that the government will have more funds for investing in other areas such as health and education if it does not invest in additional government liquor stores. In fact the present government stores contribute revenue for these purposes. The Alberta experience has shown that government revenue from liquor taxation declined with their move to privatization in part because of the greatly increased need for more supervision and regulation. This was due to the inevitable consequence of illegal sales to minors by private retailers.
Small liquor vendors in rural communities not served by a government liquor store is very important.
When you use the term "social Harm" and you have to increase the price of alcohol for this, does this really deter the young people? Doesn't matter what program or agenda you use to get to the people, they will not listen as they have it set in their minds to drink or not. Welcome to today's generation. As for private to public stores I don't care what kind of store it is just drop the prices because I can go to Alberta or even Manitoba as a fact and get cheaper prices. You want to keep your money in this province but yet you give me no choice but to buy elsewhere. Im not a huge drinker at all but I will buy at the best price, which usually means when I'm in the other provinces from time to time I will buy from them first before us. Do your price checking and be competitive to a certain point. Have incentives like air miles in manitoba or better hours like AB and MB. Do your homework as you have failed again and again at this. This should of been dealt with years ago. I remember when sasktel mobility said they had the best plans compared to other provinces. E.g. would be free cell to cell. Manitoba had that plan for years but yet SK didn't. When I told them of this they were surprised but I wasn't. Anyways, If you stay as a government store(s) be competitive with other provinces as this is a world economy nowadays. People talk and they will go anywhere to get the best deal...even the good ole USA...
Thanks,
I found out about this because SGEU wasted my taxpayer and employee dollars to send me a package asking me to oppose liquor privatization. That makes me extremely angry, to waste my money that way. So it made me come find this survey on my own, because I am very much in support of liquor NOT being public. I came from AB, and we actually wait until we are back there to buy most of our alcohol, because I dislike buying from the public liquor stores available to me in SK.
Liquor is way too expensive in Saskatchewan. It is a tax on people who like a certain product, which is completely wrong. I don't personally care either way private or public, as long as cost is reduced significantly.
The availability of local Saskatchewan-made craft beer in provincial liquor stores is currently very poor. Even in the private stores, I find far more craft beer on the shelves from Ontario than from local breweries. I'm far more interested in increasing the access to good local beer than worrying about public vs private stores. Also, refrigeration of product is a huge bonus in private stores.
The "Options Paper" accompanying this survey does not mention the possibility of government-run liquor stores increasing their product selections. That paper claims (multiple times) that the Co-op store in Saskatoon carries 2000 more SKUs than the government-run stores choose to carry. However, since the purchasing/importation and wholesaling for the Co-op's stock is performed by the government-run warehouse system, there is no reason (other than perhaps a lack of store shelf space) why the government-run stores and small-market franchise operators could not make the same selection available to their customers. The issue of shelf space restrictions in smaller stores could be readily solved by ordering from stock at the provincial warehouse. Most of the complaints I have had and/or have heard of from friends about the Saskatchewan liquor retailing system are in the areas of product selection, customer convenience, and customer service; notably absent from this list is any complaint that requires system privatization in order to be solved. I would suggest that the government take a look at some of the customer service and product selection practices of the Swedish "Systembolaget" state-owned monopoly system (see). I do not support further privatization of liquor sales in this province.
Product availability and fair pricing in a convenient environment are what I care most about.
There is no reason for the government to be running retail stores of any kind. Having to go to Soviet Liquor in Saskatoon to buy alcohol is ridiculous and allowing private retailers to open would eliminate the need to enter those old run down stores.
This survey should have also been made available to those who do not use a computer (i.e. seniors) who would have liked to participate.
No government should be involved in any retail business.
I have to wonder how much revenue Saskatchewan is losing from cross border shoppers who buy their alcohol in Alberta or the States. Let's be realistic, the same 15 pack of beer in Alberta is \$7 cheaper than here in Saskatchewan. Fuel is cheaper, cigarettes are cheaper and you don't think people in your province are not bringing their alcohol in from another province? You are losing revenue because of the higher prices. Lower your prices, privatize and you will make more money for your

programs. People will purchase here instead of supporting Alberta's economy.
The government has no reason to be involved with the sale of alcohol and its regulation. Privatize it and get the gov't out of there. Very inefficient. The market will figure it out. Even communist Russia has private liquor stores.
Why do the franchise have a lower blend mark up than the new big retailers that looks like it's not fair to my towns small business
I strongly believe that our government needs to keep at least the government operated stores we have at present intact in order to maintain the level of proficiency we have right now. I think the reasons for doing so far outweigh the reasons for privatising and I beleive the more we privatise liquor the more and more problems we will have with it. we would be opening a huge can of rotten worms. Thankyou.
I would suggest keeping the stores you have, but from now on only allow private stores to open.
less government is always good. let them govern and let stores retail.
Govt needs to keep these stores as they need the revenue they generate and I don't like the possible loss of jobs for those already employed in the stores
Government should get out of the business of liquor retailing in the Province of Saskatchewan. Of the options being considered by the government, I would support either option 3, Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System, or option 4, Managed Transition to Fully Private Retail.
more private please
The gov't has to own and not sell everything. Where does the money come for roads, health, etc? Oil is not the only ans for govt coppers. People need good jobs and security . Increase taxes are not always ans. if people have poor incomes. Please take your time for wisdom to deal with this issue.
It is so nice when you are in the states or other provinces where you can buy liquor in a private establishment such as a convenience store. Or go to wineries and buy their products. In BC this past summer I even bought a bottle of wine at a farmers market! I also believe in less taxation on the product leaving more money in the consumers pockets. I vote privatization.
Government should keep control of alcohol sales so it can use the profits to maintain other vital programs like roads, healthcare,etc. Oil and potash mining help with government revenue but if the profits from alcohol is not there, is the government to raise taxes to make a difference. Don't think taxpayers are going to be too happy and are going to resist the idea. Please use better judgement when making your decision. A lot of slga workers are going to be out of work. Not that easy to get another job when the economy is weak. Remember some private places would be alright but there will be some who are going to put a black mark on the business by their attitude and favoritism. So I would like it the way it is. Thank you.
quit privatizing
I am in support of the expanded private retail system or the managed transition to fully private retail. I have done extensive research on this topic (various policy papers in University). One option I would suggest the government of SK look further into is described in "Strategy for Transforming Ontario's Beverage Alcohol System." This was an independent report done in 2005. The panel that prepared this report recommended that the province adopt a licensing system. Under this system, the government would grant, through an auction process, fixed-term licences to perform the retail functions of a liquor store. A positive from this option is that the government would continue to make profit every time they sell a license, rather than only making profit once through the sale of the government stores and other assets (like what was done in Alberta). The government would also have more control over who receives the licenses, and can thus control the number of stores and their locations. This option benefits the government, the private-sector, and consumers. One side note I would like to add is that I greatly admire the government's approach of requesting the opinion of the public before proceeding with any option.
Annual revenue from liquor is important in ensuring better health systems, roads, & other provincial government programs and services for Saskatchewan residents is maintained.
I believe there is no need for government liquor stores that they should be privatized with government as the wholesaler and regulator
In spite of wrong information about pricing in Alberta, we have found that prices at Superstore and Costco are dramatically lower for wine and spirits than Saskatchewan stores. It would be an improvement to permit lower prices.
Personally I think that alcohol should only be available in gov't stores. People who are addicted to alcohol frequent the off-sales and a lot of the b & e are a result of smash and grab the go to the nearest pawn shop. Who needs liquor on every corner and then tell kids that it isn't good to drink!
I support the idea of gov't leaving the retail business, but would like revenue for the gov't to remain. Not sure if both are

achievable.
The more the government privatizes liquor and other commodities the less money there is to spend on education health, etc. Already this present government is giving tons of breaks to big business and not doing much for seniors, low cost housing, the poor, etc. Let's quit giving away the province.
Discounted sales of alcohol should be allowed. Allow competition in the market.
I do not think we need more liquor stores & I am uncertain why the government wishes to get rid of this revenue stream. I think it is foolish & short thinking on their part.
I believe I should be able to have a mug of beer at a micro brewery rather than just a sample.
NOTHING HAS BEEN SAID ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LOSE JOB SECURITY, PENSIONS, MEDICAL CARE, IF THE CURRENT LIQUOR STORES ARE CLOSED!!!! MANY PEOPLE HAVE CHOSEN TO WORK THERE AS A CAREER, WITH DECENT PAY.
Prefer maintaining the existing system
No point in changing anything if you arent going to change the amount of wholesale profit collected. Prices are not competitive at stores and until they are I will continue to get my expensive rums in Alberta
Last year more than \$252 million in profits from liquor sales. If this goes private, where will we get this revenue from?? Did you know 76% of spirits were less expensive than AB 70% of beer products were less expensive than in private stores in AB
Some of your questions should be more straight forward. I felt they had a 2 part to be answered. I feel that the status quo is a good system.the government still has control and also has employees who have good incomes and government income for tax purposes.
Let's get more private run liquor stores and then the customer will ultimately decide which is better
Concerns is that in rural Saskatchewan some of the liquor outlets are not meeting the minimum and play price game based on the purchase time if after 1030 pm they charge different rate, so I think in some cases competition is good in rural Saskatchewan it will have retailers that would like to invest and make good business decisions carrying certain products meeting their customers needs.
The SLGA has way r Too much to say about what is offered for purchase in SK, about how and where it can be purchased, It not supportive of the local SK, industry that is trying to get established against huge multinational corporations, in fact it seems like they are fighting it all they, makes you wonder just who they are working for. U
paying union personnel the wages they are getting, as well as the cost associated with a Government owned store, is reason enough to privatize this business.
government will retain a certain amount from sales and taxes of alcohol regardless of who is running them. Unions are getting too demanding and private stores would end their constant whining when they are overpaid already compared to similar jobs in the private industry
I worry about the way in which these questions were asked. They are slanted towards the answers that the current government would like the survey results to demonstrate.
I think the questions in this survey are unfair towards the government liquor retailing side. The feedback of this survey will be skewed towards the private side and will not be an accurate representation of what the Saskatchewan people think.
privatize it and as many other government operations as possible.
Private is good for all.
Keep liquor public.
I most agree with the option "expanded private retail system." I think this option would best serve Saskatchewan residents.
We've been to private stores in Lloydminster Lethbridge and Medicine Hat and none compare to the quality of selection or advice at the SLB in North Battleford. I hope you don't make any changes to the system; it works great the way it is.
I support a Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System

Alcohol is a luxury, not a necessity. Alcohol does not need to be readily available at each corner. An excellent form of voluntary taxation for the government.
Keep the current mix of private and public. Selling the public assets will result in a one time profit with future profits accruing the private sector, which is unacceptable to me as a taxpayer of this province. The government liquor system provides good jobs with benefits, which would certainly not be the case in a private setting, as we can see from the Alberta example. Franchises give access to liquor to smaller communities which could not support a government liquor store, but there is no reason for private stores in large settings like Regina or Saskatoon.
Why fix what is not broken, seems to be the way of our government these days, many areas of importance suffer while something that has always worked and provided profit to the province takes up time and money - why?
keep private out of saskatchewan
it ain't broke don't fix it
Saskatchewan should get with the times. Get rid of public liquor stores please!
My concern is that the majority of people wanting private liquor stores believe they will save lots of money. I do not think those who purchase lots of liquor understand the potential impact of losing this government revenue and loss of government jobs by privatizing it. I hope the decision is made based on cost/feasibly rather than simply the some of the views of the public, unless those views are educated.
Keep liquor stores publickeep the revenue going back into the province to help pay for Health care and other social programs.rather than filling the pockets of private business
Do not privatize we need the revenue for programs in Saskatchewan.
Keep them public, privatizing destroys things and raises prices. Jobs put at risk as for profit. Also we need to keep the revenue coming in for liqueur sales especially at a time of such instability, some stable revenue is good
Do Not Sell Government Liquor Stores
Stop privatization
We need monies back in our community!
I support any opportunities to diversify product selection while maintaining competitive pricing, availability, and funding for other initiatives from government revenues. A blended system would be best for this, I believe. One important thing regarding liquor retailing is the importance of allowing entrepreneurs who wish produce and sell spirits the ability to do so within the province. For example, allowing a brewery to produce, market, and sell privately and province-wide. It's important to support local entrepreneurs who wish to bring new ventures and ideas to the economy of Saskatchewan. So long as it doesn't endanger our society, ideas should be considered and compromises made. I like the system we have, to be honest. But it's important to open up to new ideas such as testing liquor availability in grocery stores, etc. I don't claim to know much about liquor retailing, but, as a customer, selection of specialty, unique, and locally-produced liquor is important to me. Thanks for reading this! Hope the survey helps.
If your making money at something it doesn't make much sense to get rid of it!
I think liquor sales are easier to police in gov. Stores.
Government has no place in the business of liquor. Government should provide a framework of legislation and allow private enterprise the full right to undertake the distribution of liquor.
Allow people of Sask. the opportunity to go into business for themselves and make the money, not the gov't who in the end will waste the money anyway!!!
Let there be private liquor stores in Saskatchewan, like Alberta, along with the selections and prices that stores in Alberta have.
I really do not understand the logic of selling businesses that are making a profit. What is the sense at taking a one time profit to blow and have nothing for the future? It's time to put the future of the province in the forefront and not the momentary gratification of a few extra bucks.

Leave the it just the way it is. It is working fine. There are far more important things for the government to worry about then liquor sales.
Privatization
Go with private stores. I have been in Alberta and Ontario. And the stores there work just fine! Don't let those ndp screw us again!!!
I think Sask. residents are being gouged by the Govt. The prices are grossly inflated. Whenever the govt. needs extra cash flow, the price of liquor is raised and is falsely justified by saying it is for the good of the public. This is why I make my own beer and wine or shop out of province. I'm convinced that the govt. will find a way to overtax these methods too. I understand that the price will not be reduced in any way regardless of the outcome of this survey or the final decision. I'm sure the decision has already been made but this survey is a way the powers that be can say it was " the people's choice". This way liquor sales will be privatized so the govt. can save money by off loading costs by laying off employees while reaping the profits that will still be collected by private business.
Please give us private options. So frustrating when you go to other places, in Canada, and have better access and options.
We need lower pricing no matter which way this survey and the decision goes.
I moved here from alberta and think they have a better policy as they don't roll up the sidewalks at 6 or in regina 9 pm,sask is so behind the real world.
modern retailers such as food stores are more than capable of offering a sensible alternative to union dominated stores
I am fine with liquor retailing the way it is in Saskatchewan allowing private ownership of liquor stores makes sense in markets where consumers will get additional hours of operation, service and selection where needed. I like the professional service I receive now, however, certain markets would benefit from private liquor sales being provided. I am against grocery stores and convenience stores selling liquor.
The government of Saskatchewan should get out of the liquor retailing. Liquor is a Cancer that is killing our providence. The providice of Saskatchewan should ban the consupcion, and sale of liquor.
I don't think alcohol needs to be cheaper there's enough people screwed up over alcohol .We should leave well enough alone
If privatized please make sure it goes to second generation to sask citizens not people who are only in the country for a few weeks.
Leave things as they are now
Competitive pricing is valuable to me.
I think a mixture of Government Stores and private stores is the way to go. Liquor stores should be allowed to be open until a least midnight
It makes absolutely no sense to privatize liquor sales that are contributing to the provincial gov't coffers. Once it is privatized, the source of revenue disappears. Gov't stores pay a decent wage to employees who are knowledgeable and helpful, and there is more variety than in any private store I have shopped at.
It cost a lot to support employees ie wages, pensions, workers comp. that is not told to Sask. citizens. What's the comparison between private and public ownership.
Private enterprise can always do a better more efficient job than government employees.
full private retail system
There is too much regulation of alcoholic beverages and as a result prices have increased exponentially. This has to stop. I don't mind paying a little more for alcohol, but the prices have become out of control and utterly ridiculous.
When the Liquor Store starts dictating how many empty beer returns you can bring (Fort Qu'Appelle and their beer bottle return limit) I think it is time to privatize!
After working in a liquor franchise I think that the government should not invest in new liquor stores, but maintain the ones they have. Any future requirements for luqor stores should be delt with as franchises. Where the company's primary focus will not solely be on liquor but other buisness (ie grocery store)
The cost of liquor would be basic for government for all stores .Private stores would have the responsiblity of the building and property as well as the employee wages.This would save the government a load in cost.
The survey itself is limited with the style of questions. The questions that suggest there would be more money for this government to spend on health, education, etc. is very misleading because the government is MAKING a PROFIT right now from

OWNING liquor board stores and this profit should be put into education and health already. Thai government needs to stop privatizing our government own revenues! This survey also LIMITS those who DO NOT have Internet access! DO NOT PRIVITIZE liquor stores!!!
Keep the government stores but allow free enterprise stores as well
The way you twist the truth is disgusting !
give people the choice to buy where they like. Govt not controlling everything is my opinion.
leave existing as found
I'm in favour of better selections and lower pricing. When consumers by cheaper in Alberta or the USA, why shop here?
I wish that the current liquor stores would offer a greater selection of higher quality liquors.
gust leve it the way it is now
I want the Liquor Board stores to remain the way they are. That is the way it is , so just leave it be!
I do not want to see private liquor stores popping up all over Saskatchewan like in Alberta. It makes it even easier for young teens to access liquor when they are under age. This to me is the wrong direction for the Current and or future Gov's to want. I see to many high school kids having access to liquor now and if more mom n pop stores were to pop up in Saskatchewan like Alberta IMO this would lead to even more under agers accessing liquor. The current system in place allows the Prov to thrive with income from the public stores and very good paying jobs to tax payers so all the moneys stay in the prov if the gove were to privatize these stores the profits would not be staying in the province. We can see that with the current low price of Oil our Prov gov's income has dropped by over 60-70% with oil revenues so any moneys the gov can keep IMO it should keep. Its about looking after the Prov & its citizens first not looking after big business ahead of the tax payers. I hope this helps I have lived in Saskatchewan for my entire life and want the same values I had growing up to be there for my children and their children.
Keep as is.
I would like to see more privatization. More variety and some different prices!! It is time to get out of this archaic system!!
I think things should stay the way they are, there is no benefit in privatization except loosing jobs and if there is so much revenue coming from government run liquor stores for hospitals , roads etc then why change something that isn't broken. Just leave it the way it is. I got forced to accept the new stadium and now this what is next????
For me, the main reason to keep operating gov't liquor stores is that they provide the province with a revenue stream that can be used to pay for other services. If that revenue is lost, how does the gov't make up for it?
Privatizing liquor stores is just another step of the Brad Wall Government in Privatizing other Crown Corporations. The loss of government jobs is very important. Where does the government feel they will get the revenue from if they no longer get it from liquor stores. What other things will they cut because of the loss of revenue.
Consider a minimum vendor size and do not allow excess vendors per particular area. Consider vendor security standards to minimize robbery risk especially small vendors. Include security cameras for all sites. Shopping in Alberta for liquor is superior to current Sask program.
status quo, continue to run government stores as they are today. no more privatization.
At the risk of loosing jobs I would prefer to see jobs kept. From what I have heard now there isn't much difference in price. The only difference in privateand govtownedstores is that thegovt is backing private business and killing everything else
When the government doesn't have to pay employee wages and property upkeep, they will make more by just getting tax revenue from the alcohol. Privatize!!!!
Government regulation staffing and opportunity to gain and use profits must be retained. Privatization makes us more American and less benevolent and caring.
I think it should be left as is, the government can use the profits towards healthcare, highways, etc., and it helps with the current shortfall with the oil situation.
like private enterprise, believe they can do a very good job for less.
I honestly do not see why the government doesn't just privatize liquor sales and continue to operate the more profitable LB stores. privatizing opens up more job opportunities and the government is still going to receive funds from taxes, both business taxes as well as sales taxes whilst cutting operation costs.
I think the government should make the profits which is divided among all the people of sask. And not privatize the stores and

let only a few people make the money. Also it is very important to maintain those middle class jobs to keep our economy revolving
Govt should retain current revenue model to ensure profits are available when needed (ie. times when budgetary deficits may occur)
from personal experience the employees of the slga stores are the last people I would recommend anyone take advice from with regards to wine, beer or spirits, they are severely lacking knowledge on all the products they sell.
keep it as it is!
. Shame on you guys for trying to close such a great thing for this province. It's Truly sad how a one person can brain wash and ruin an entire province. I have not and will not EVER buy privatized liquor. I'd rather drive and give the United States economy my money then play into this sick game. You are all ruining our way of life, for what? A quick buck?
Specialized stores selling boutique types and Beer only stores could be private. General retailing of alcohol, as we have in the publicly owned/operated should stay this way. There should be no ban on new general retail stores. All that is is political dogma and has no place in this issue. Stop playing politics by catering to small out of touch supporters of the government. Try rising above gutter politics, if not, you will end up angering many many people who will see you as nothing but a small minded government that is more concerned with giving to supporters than governing for everyone.
Alcohol consumption is too high among young people, irresponsible drinking is costly to society. Too many broken homes because of alcohol abuse, high cost to health care also.
Status quo. Liquor profits mean the tax dollar goes to othr govt funding, health,education, including proper wages for liquor employees. Obviously there is money to be made otherwise the private sector wouldnt want it. Lets keep it here for our people our needs.
Keep all the liquor income within government
Private ownership will extend the hours of operation thus: more availability will result in increased alcohol use and abuse - mostly minimum wage jobs and poorer service - enormous profit loss for the government as the private owners returns will be greater than government cost of operation - loss of government buildings, as they will be offered at greatly reduced prices to the private purchaser - increased profit will result in longer hours of operation thus increasing the opportunities for robberies and crime! Also, increased availability will result in higher rates of Alcoholism! This approach makes NO sense...let us retain the profits and good paying jobs!
Private retailers will have profit and the bottom line as their main priority. Patronage will definitely enter into the picture, benefiting the privileged few only!
I like the mix of Gov't and private stores. I also think the Gov't needs to keep control and profits from liquor sales.
I believe the government of Saskatchewan should NOT be in the retail business of marketing/selling alcohol. this can be handled by the private sector.
It bugs me that if I want a cold beer at 9:30 in the evening I have to go to a noisy stinky bar and pay way too much because some aged teetotaler has decided he or she knows better than I whats good for me. The use of high price to reduce alcohol abuse just does not apply in the real world.
It is imperative niche breweries have direct access to retailers. Their product must bypass the SLGA wearhousing process. I see no need to exercise the current level of needless govt control over alcohol.
Profits from liquor sales should go to the provincial government and stay with the government going towards healthcare, education and roads.
I am not to concerned with price or availability. It is my view liquor sales would be a bigger profit to the Prov. and it's tax payers given to the private sector.
With revenues down in potash and oil it is uturely ridiculous to think that the government would consider given up another revenue based business that they own. The Sask party needs to be a leader and not te follower of provinces in this country. Don't use comparisons "because the other guys do"!!!
Would rather people had stable good paying safe government jobs than private stores that seem to only make the owner rich. Government workers spend most of their money in province and are able to retire with pension security.

Privatize!
private retail ,gov,t out
I feel the government stores are over staffed with union people who don't care about the customer experience. They are over paid for stocking shelves and running a cash register. This is a job for 18 year olds out of school, not people trying to make a living from being in a government union.
I want growler filling stations everywhere beer is sold.
Maintain the status quo
The government liquor store is much cheaper than the Liquor Spot .in Weyburn The Liquor Spot for a 26 Vodka is 30.50 where at the government is 26.00
Leave the stores the way they are. No private stores.
Leave the liquor stores as is. I am not that old but have experienced first hand when govt has privatized costs increased, service remained the same, thus did not benefited the average citizen, the people at the top of the new organization benefit with \$\$
I would like to see profits from the sale of liquor in Saskatchewan remain as they are
I believe that a strong private sector retailing liquor without too much gov't. regulation would serve our province well.We are spending too much on staffing gov't.stores and would see better results spending the money on our aging infrastructure.
What a farce privatization is for business to put it to the consumer. They will continue to lobby for a greater share like they did in Alberta and governments will give in to them. Our liquor stores already operate at an overhead the private industry can't match so the government gives them a larger discount. I have researched this issue very closely.
Follow what Alberta has done
I am a swing voter. Not too much left or right. However, I don't believe Sk. should privatize liquor stores. Why replace these workers who can almost make a living working, without crime or wellware assistance ,with on minimum wages.
If the government is continuing to be the wholesaler which in turn will control retail pricing fir the most part they should continue to be the main retailer. I think the government should realize the funds from being the retailer does help all the things they want to use what they consider as savings will fund.
Save tax payers as much money as possible. Keep Union jobs strong and alive as much as possible in the city and province. I'm always in favour of supporting with my money towards Union jobs. Thank you & please leave as is and not change to privit.
Make them private because it is very inconvenient to purchase domestic beer in rural area. But limit the number of stores.
1 your questions in survey are very open to interpretation, very poor on your part. 2 I support government running this and other businesses (sasktel, saskpower, etc.), I believe our govt is very capable and more trustworthy than private companies. 3 I believe govt run business would provide more profit to taxpayers than private business and at a lower cost to customers. 4 please do not privatize any more businesses the province owns and operates! A govt run business is similar to a cooperative in giving it's profits to its owners the taxpayers.
Unless there is a REAL movement to inter provincial competitiveness there is No need for private stores.
I feel it is important to keep liquor retailing public. The government and Saskatchewan residents benefit from the revenue generated from public establishments. Privatizing liquor would eliminate a source of revenue for the province and potentially eliminate jobs for Saskatchewan people. I don't understand how losing this source of revenue would benefit the province.
Sask should allow private sale of liquor
To be honest, the current system is not broken. This evaluation of the liquor stores seems to be a massive make-work project and fuss over nothing. It isn't broken - so don't fix it.
The loss of revenue that liquor sales bring in will be difficult to extract from another source. The revenue is needed now and perhaps more in the future. People don't seem to have that much trouble getting alcohol now.
I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THINGS STAY AS THEY ARE.
Alberta style

I do not agree with eliminating the Government liquor boards they certainly bring in revenue provide employment an overall positive experience shopping at these stores. If I felt the money saved would go to Health or Education I might reconsider these two areas of our province does not seem important to our current government body
If we could approach the price and variety offered by the LCBO (Ontario) that would be ideal.
If the government feels that a larger selection is required, they can open specialty shops in the two larger centres (Regina and Saskatoon).
Keep liquor sales profits working for Saskatchewan. Stick your heads over the border to the south and see all the Alkies with their brown bags sitting in front of all the numerous liquor outlets!
open liquor sales in retail stores such as Safeway & Walmart as they do in the USA no more drunks down in the USA
How can we lose the revenue generated by liquor stores for social programs and justify it? What better way for people to pay taxes than on "sin" taxes which individuals can avoid. When it comes to things which need monitoring and which need quality handling I believe a division of the government is important. I also like the idea that workers earn a livable wage. I would like to see government more concerned, in reference to jobs, with the lack of stable and fairly paid jobs (i.e. waitresses who work 2 or 3 jobs, etc. to survive. That is shameful as a society.)
Alberta has an interesting system where they set minimum pricing and government profits from liquor sales. The government needs the revenues for other priorities like healthcare, roads, etc and liquor is a constant source of revenues.
Privatize like Alberta. We don't need to pay high Union wages for shelf stockers. Break the Sask unions.
I feel much more confident that I'll have a good experience at a government run liquor store than at a private store.
I do agree with keeping some of the existing government stores as long as money is not continuously put into them to compete with the private stores. It would be nice to be able to purchase certain items in Saskatchewan rather than having to purchase them out of province. Saskatoon Sobeys was very impressive hopefully Regina's will open soon. Will be making a trip soon to pick up items that I am unable to purchase here.
All Liquor outlets should be in Grocery Stores or Local Business establishments. Small towns are all this way and government still gets consumption tax collected without the employment costs or issues! Please get rid of ALL GOVERNMENT LIQUOR STORES and focus on what Government should be doing. Thank You
I support private operation of liquor stores. Lost in the discussion seems to be the ongoing cost of pension contributions to government employees. Revenue is only part of the equation.
Alcohol sales have always provided good revenue for taxpayers with the huge bonus of fairly paid employees which is also a bonus for taxpayers. Many private businesses pay the minimum in wages & Sask. does not need higher numbers of "working poor".
Why would the government want to give away revenue and lose good paying jobs? A minimum wage earner does not pay income tax at the same rate as any SK Gov't worker!! It has been proven that private sector does not work!
govt run express marts in grocery stores would be convenient. Responsible liquor sales is important. could see price gouging if sales went private. NO THANKS to Alberta style system. CHEERS.
The questions in this survey were very leading and made it difficult to provide honest feedback. I currently favour the status quo until the government can explain where they would get the money they would lose from not having liquor store profits in a purely private system. Where would it come from? If you can give a straight answer to that question I would consider supporting a private system.
Maintain liquor retailing as gov't owned and operated. I feel the gov't is purposely making current liquor stores look bad in a clever way. There is plenty of room to improve our publicly owned liquor stores. The gov't of the day chooses not to. This is done to have the public think privatizing is the only answer to have a better operated liquor outlet. It is designed to convince the public that privatizing is the only way to go if you want improvement. Nice Survey.
No private liquor stores. The Gov't owned stores make great profits and the staff are able to support their families with good long-term jobs!
Alberta style
make them private like other provinces. More competition
a service in a smaller community that private investors won't provide the selection due to cost factors. Gov't stores a drawing card for small town. Wages spent in smaller communities
Not worried about jobs just want revenue for other projects and to support programs. I know the price I am paying is going to

support things i or family use everyday. Not worried about saving a couple of bucks.
Do not allow private liquor vendors.
If it ain't broke don't fix it Is the sask liquor board profitable? If yes then stay the course. I am originally from ontario and the beer store is the largest purchaser in the world of alcohol giving them purchasing power. Selling spirits in a controlled setting is a good idea. How many times is a sask liquor store robbed? How often are convenience stores robbed?
Don't Go Private
Privatize
I firmly believe as an educator in this province no further access to liquor is needed. I also appreciate the revenue which comes from government owned businesses.
Liquor is not a benign product. Society spends a lot of time dealing with its effects: health costs, increased employee absences, costs to the police and legal systems. That is the current situation with the current availability for consumers. Increasing availability for the sake of convenience does not outweigh the need to look after the larger sector of society who do not want the extra expenses of all the social costs of liquor. It is easily available all ready. No one is suffering from being unable to get to a place to purchase liquor. We need to have the proceeds from liquor as high as possible in our provincial coffers to help mitigate the social costs of liquor. Private vendors need profit. The province will eventually be in the losing end of privatizing liquor sales, once the sale of property no longer covers some of the losses to the provincial coffers as vendors factor in their profit. We are stuck with liquor in society. Let us at least be able to be the ones profiting from liquor sales in terms of monies to mitigate the social costs that come with its place in our society.
Giving liquor revenue to the government is like pouring water into a bottomless hole. In a private store the revenue benefits local people and that money is then spent in a local economy, not by propping up over inflated government salaries.
It is time that we open the liquor market to private individuals to provide competition and selection. Private stores will still have to employ people to operate them so jobs are not a strong argument. It's time Saskatchewan joins the rest of the world in liquor sales.
Born in Saskatchewan, I did spend 7 years in Alberta. I found the private liquor stores having a wider selection and were more price competitive, particularly for beer and wine. Being a rural resident I find the hours of operation in rural stores inconvenient. I am a huge supporter of all private business vs. any type of Government business whether these be Provincial or Federal. Governments should govern, not be in retail sales.
I feel that the Government spends far too much in salaries in government operated liquor stores. And the government does not need to invest in further bricks and mortar facilities, when it collects the taxes from liquor sales no matter who sells the product.
i go south in the winter where we can get liquor everywhere and we drink no more than at home..please get gov't out of the retail business!
Keep them a government operation
Government should not be in the business of liquor sales at all. Private stores can create jobs at more efficient levels then any Union can.
Government expanded retail
I was looking for info but couldn't find it I thought that mr wall said the liquor prices wouldn't change with privatation if that is true then I wouldn't be in support of changing the dynamic wouldn't see the sense
I just know from other government owned corp. such as Sasktel - they have very poor service and when things are privately owned they are usually operated better!
It is time the government stepped back from owning and operating businesses.
If privatized our taxes will only increase to make up for the loss of revenue to the Government. at least this way only those who are drinking are paying those taxes and others who don't drink or drink very little are not paying for something they don't use.
Alberta
All govt stores should be closed and turn over to the private sector. There is no need for the govt to be in the retail sector. The govt can still maintain profit margins without the cost of buildings and staffing. The private sector can do a much better job running stores at a profit with lower cost to the consumer. We pay way too much for products that are available in other provinces at a lower cost. A lot of sales are being lost to cross border shopping for the privilege of govt run stores.

private puts money back to community in all taxes donations advertising etc/ unions do not
We love shopping in the Costco and Superstore liquor outlets in Alberta and hope to see the same here in Saskatchewan!
Outside of government hands or the hands of producers who sell direct(micro breweries or distilleries), there should be no other options. I have seen the effects of lessening regulation and you will pay more tax dollars in policing and prosecution and the ensuing costs.
The Wall government promised NOT to PRIVATIZE Crown owned businesses. The move towards privatization would break that promise! Privatization has proven to cost more in the long run. In the short term, government would get monies from the sale of and or privatization of these liquor stores but in the long term profits would decrease! Private companies are in business to MAKE money. Publically owned businesses are not solely about making money. Crown owned corporations SHOULD NOT BE SOLD!
I believe we need to maintain the revenue currently received from liquor sales to fund public services & we need to maintain well paying jobs to try to reverse the trend of working families having a harder & harder time each year to make ends meet.
bc makes great wine.. cant buy it in Sask. Ontario also has unique honey mead.. cant get it in Sask. sucks.. so limited
Many snowbirds cross border into Alberta because of excessive tax in Sk. Therefore all tax is lost because of excessive greed. Everyone I know makes a point of crossing into Ab. This is not good business.
Wine and beer should be available at grocery stores.
More private and gov't stay same number
It would be great to have the option to have a variety of product and types of alcohol that is based on consumer preference and not the decision of the store manager, or to not have promotions shut down because of a lack of marketing, such as the wine filling station at Normanview a while ago.
Locations that sell liquor should also be the only locations for the sale of tobacco.
The govt. should be increasing the cost of alcohol and targeting it, just like they do for tobacco.
I like the idea to manage the transition to fully private stores. I'm retired now and like to shop around for a deal. Thanks
leave the current situation as is!
The prices are ridiculous as of right now. Hopefully private stores will offer more competition.
The government does not have to "choose" whether to invest in liquor or "other areas", as liquor stores make money to spread to those "other areas". Just because government doesn't want to spend money to build a liquor store, doesn't mean it can't lease space. Quit trying to trick the public.
maintain the current system as it is now .status quo is not the way to go private stores will only make more money that could be part of profits that are now turned in to provincial coffers to benefit all Saskatchewan residents not just a few private retailers
Stop fooling around with the ideological issues--find some substantive ones like: foodbanks and the # of children, families using same; bullying prevention; improving seniors' care; stopping farmers from burning their fields; infrastructure and the like.
I would definitely be supportive of an expanded private retail system that would operate with fairness to the taxpayer, the retailer and consumer.
govt should be out of the retail sale of liquor completely
Let the private sector retail stores have it available like in the U.S. The gov't employees out of work can help our labor force get employees for other sectors! put more people back in the labor force for private enterprise!!
I found some of the questions to be ambiguous so I want to clarify my point of view. I think the Government of Saskatchewan should maintain liquor sales as a public service and should not continue to privatize this revenue. The proceeds of the public sale of liquor should be re-invested into public programs like healthcare, education, and infrastructure maintenance. Thank you and may GOD grant you all the wisdom to lead in the best interests of the people.
The current system is working.
Managed Transition to fully private liquor sales. One items I would like to see is Environmental and Recycle fee included in the price as shown so not added to price at purchase. Assume Government will maintain current revenue without high cost of current SLGA staffing and benefits plus cost of maintaining owned buildings.

liquor stores adhere to strict policy guidelines in regards to sale of alcohol. Government Liquor stores have policies and trained staff, and are committed to ensure sale of alcohol to minors is prohibited. if privatized, how does that affect general public perception on responsibility of sales to minors. it comes down to \$ sales when privatized. Liquor stores are socially responsible in ensuring public safety.
I think the government has a good way of raising money by selling a luxury item that most of us don't mind paying for. This revenue can be used in other areas, such as health care. My opinion is if the LBS is privatized, many workers will eventually end up being paid minimum wages, which isn't beneficial to our economy.
The sale of goods is a global market, online shopping is a fact. This only confirms that the market place is based on a competitive market. when I can travel to Alberta have better selection, competitive pricing at less cost how can a monopoly like sask be successful. Old thought processes expressed by many in this province with outdated liquor laws and outdated boards and bureaucrats is definitely not a plan for success. Likewise I might add our Liquor Control taxes and restrictions on importation as witnessed by the difference between Alberta and Sask from the US. We in SK just continue to lose revenue when you can simply return from the US through Alberta or go and shop in Alberta as many do.
My main fear is that our liquor stores will become more like AB which are disgusting holes that do not stress the knowledge of the product to their workers. Plus I found that you do NOT find the selection to be the same everywhere. I do not want to drive around town finding the best deals and getting the product I need. The only reason why I would even support a change is that Costco Brand Liquor is cheaper and just as good, in my opinion. Outside of Costco I would support Normanview LB just as much as I do today.
It was really hard to find this survey online. No wonder you've had so few responses!
Private is the way to go. Dont back down
I would hate to see the Gov't. lose all that money that they get now. We certainly need it with the oil prices so low.
ALL liquor stores (existing & future) should remain public!!!
Do not privatize this government will do anything to down size crowns
Stop the privatizing and work on the economy
Do not privatize!!
In my opinion, the government has privatized more than they should have. Government run services work and cost the taxpayers a lot less money.
Some of these questions are very misleading, ie investing money on govt liquor stores. These stores MAKE money, the question is invalid. Please stop trying to confuse the public.
I would only support private operations if they were open at the end of the current government owned stores hours of operation, much like the current off-sales do in a way.
I believe it should be privatized. There are more important things for the govnt to be overseeing.
Leave the gov liquor stores alone. You are pushing your own political agenda and not doing what is best for this province and peoples jobs. This survey also has a biased bend to it.
Imhave been to private liquor stores in Alberta and the prices are not much different. In some cases, they are higher. The servicee is not as good and the stores are not as nice....even the larger ones. Also, I have seen young people who look underage get served without being asked for ID. I also don't want to see more job loss in our province, or compromise the quality of our health care, education, roads and other aervices.
Please make sask liqour stores like alberta. We would not drink more alcohol but it would turn into a perk to live here. We don't have many perks to live here. I always purchase alcohol from alberta and from USA cause it's much cheaper. It's a perk to travel there because of cheaper alcohol.
the government should spend its energies on infrastructure and health/education. If it involves itself in retail businesses it would be better off running the strip clubs, then it could ensure the health/welfare of the sex trade workers.
Privatize liquor stores, it would save on gov't buildings not mention other costs wages benefits etc. Plus the stores would have other products, one stop shopping
I think that the union should ,get out of these govt business , we pay for there pension , as tax payer ;I had to save for my own

pension & worked daily no sick pay etc; ,
I don't want to see the gov't race to sell off existing stores. I believe new stores should be private and that gov't should not be investing further in public liquor retailing. If any existing public stores are to be privatized, I wish to see that the purchaser be a bonafied Saskatchewan resident, and not have out of province investment acquire these strategic assets. I believe that the gov't can regulate its revenue, and retain strong influence over liquor retailing by maintaining full control of wholesaling.
Please privatize liquor retailing in Saskatchewan.
I would like our liquor sales the same as Montana or North Dakota. Buy your liquor at the same time you buy groceries.
Keep the stores public, the only ones that profit from privatization are the rich! The impact on rural communities could be far reaching. Families who rely on employment of the SLGA could be forced to move into larger centres to find decent paying jobs. This would then filter down to impact the rest of the community. For example, my spouse works for SLGA, I work as a RN for the health region in rural SK, we have 3 kids. If we should be forced to move this takes 5 people from our community who also contribute to the economy of the town, kids are in local schools, sports, etc. Not a good idea to privatize!
Where else will that revenue come from that we would lose if privation occurs? Why put that revenue in the pockets of private owners? We should not sell off anything that gives Sask. A profit.
i dont agree with the government wanting to abandon government run liquor stores. it is ridiculously short sighted to refuse to put money int bricks and mortar stores when the return on investment for the province is very good.
Put 3 children through university. Disturbed that my tax dolar pays a rediculous wage for government liquor workers salary. In my opinion no education required for job!!!
I recommend transition to private retail system similar to Alberta
Taxes are way too high.
I have no problem with private liquor stores as the government sees fit.
If liquor sales go private and the government looses the revenue it now enjoys from liquor sales, chances are we the tax payers will be expected to make up the loss of revenue. My taxes are high enough and I don't want or need an increase. This to me is one of the deciding points of who I'll vote for in the upcoming election.
-
Keep liquor stores government owned.
Lived in Alberta for 3 yrs, found that the wines I liked were almost always cheaper in Sask.
I think selling the liquor stores would lose the people of saskatchewan the same way selling of the potash has negatively impacted us.
I believe the government should give the liquor sales to the private sector. Although government jobs could be lost, jobs would open up in the private sector. In allowing the liquor sales to become privatized, the consumer would benefit in many ways including price and service. The government could still benefit through the tax system.
Too many of the questions are ambiguous or have a hidden agenda - i.e. "reinvesting" - with profits or sale of stores? This can be used any way you want - and answered for staying the same or . . . BAD QUESTION!!!! Also "keep stores that . . . meet " - if you don't read carefully and agree to "keep stores" a person who wants to have things stay the same and 'agrees strongly' does not realize that the designers of the survey will take this as 'agreeing' to sell profitable stores that 'do not meet' what could easily be stated as outrageous expectations. i.e. Saskatoon levels of sales in a small town outlet. IN MY OPINION THIS SURVEY IS DESIGNED FOR A SPECIFIC OUTCOME.
Go Private .. Getting tired of Unions.
SLGA employees are more professional, friendly, and know their products. The stores are also clean and laid out very well.
Keep the govt stores we have FOR SURE! Any new one needed should be looked at individually as to whether they be private or gov't owned
I really do think we need to keep the profits from liquor sales in our province so we can continue to strengthen our amazing

province and people. We deserve to treat people right and we have a perfect opportunity to do so with liquor sales.
Say no to the privatization of liquor sales here in Saskatchewan. Considering the dismal results to our roads, the extra costs incurred, the loss of control over projects and lack of consistency when the highway equipment was sold during the privatization of Saskatchewan highways maintenance. Again, say no to the privatization of the liquor stores.
The current SGEU commercials against privatization make them less credible.
I feel that as long as that revenue continues to fund the essential things it does, liquor stores need to be gov run. we need to keep heritage sites, museums, parks and so on running for years to come and that takes a pile of money.
I support the Gov't retail experience. The staff are friendly, knowledgeable & clean cut/well dressed. These are standards I appreciate.
We just came back from Mexico and you could buy a beer in the local food store for 60 cents a bottle and we saw one drunk on the streets in the 7 days we were there.
do not give away revenue in this economic climate...not go private...also allow new sask liquor production to expand...ie Lucky bastard should be able to produce more product.
The Government can maintain profits by continuing to wholesale alcohol products but should provide more private outlets such as Sobies and Coop. Alcohol in grocery stores would be a welcome convenience. No more new Govt liquor stores.
the question asking about the importance of the potential changes to liquor retailing increasing the ability of govt. to reinvest in other priorities is misleading. i wanted to leave this one unchecked but it doesn't allow that so i checked the unsure button. if the govt lets go , the profit from the current system will not be there to reinvest if it is making money, as a taxpayer i want the profits from it to be used to move the province forward. imagine the profits if the potash had not been sold off. i was too young then to have a voice. govt. jobs are probably well paying jobs
no.2 and no.3
Private retail operations will still be subject to the laws of Sask, their employees will still pay income tax, and taxes on liquor will still be levied. High paying- low skill jobs will be lost. but they will be off the public payroll. The control of peoples choices should be left to individuals within constraints of the law.
Trading full time jobs in the government stores for part time no benefits, low paying jobs in private stores and giving up profit to the government does not make much sense!
I find limited product to purchase in Sask. as opposed to driving to Alberta to purchase products that are not available here. Also cheaper to purchase in Alberta.
I get a good selection at SLGA, and they have very good promotions that are beneficial to everyone (sale prices and contests). The staff are friendly and knowledgeable.
Private liquor stores pay taxes just like the rest of us.
I see a very noticeable difference in public owned liquor stores in alberta. Gov't liquor stores in Sk are much cleaner, more products, more organized, and informed people working there. We do not need private liquor stores here. Do not "fix" what isn't broken.
private is best as that is the best chance we have of getting competition to help reduce prices.
Liquor store employees are just overpaid convenience store clerks. Tired of my pocket book being by the gov when I buy liquor. The gov needs to get over it's addiction to liquor profits. Although not everything in Alberta liquor store are cheaper you can always find good bargains and discounts there. Sask liquor stores mark something down one dollar and call it a sale. What a joke. Boohoo and good bye to the Union and gov run and owned stores.
The Gov't doesnot have to agree with a host on radio who thinks he knows what all Sk think or should do. That is advertising at its worst.
Some of these questions are not clear (On purpose?) You must also take into consideration job loss on economy. If private can afford building and make profit, why not you. Stay away from P3.
Dislike money being spent to promote the maintaining of union jobs in television ads etc.

if it ain't broke don't fix it
I stongly believe there is absolutely no need for gov't run, high paying skillless jobs, typical shelf stockers/cashiers making \$25/hr makes no sense whatsoever, that is TAKING money from other vital services. Private is the way to go.
I find nothing wrong with the way things have been operating all these years...
status quo
I believe the Sask. government should loosen it's grip on liquor retailing, and not rely on it so heavily for revenue. I think you should be able to at least buy a bottle of wine or a case of beer at a grocery store. Maybe even a bottle of hard liquor.
Quit wasting money at our government stores and get to privatizing our stores.....
I think it is time liquor stores were privatized. My experience with government stores is the clerks are rude and think we owe them a living. I will be supporting private stores in the future.
Keep it the way it is!!!
I think the Government should move to the Alberta model of liquor retailing asap.
if the sask govt remains as the sole wholesaler and retail is privatized I believe net revenue to the govt may improve when all the current overhead of operation is dropped ie wages and infrastructure cost.
What's the matter with the way it is??
public stores seem to have indifferent staffs more concerned with coffee and talking than serving customers
In rural the selection is limited I am very much in favor of private owned stores.
let private stores compete on a level playing field with gov. stores. If gov. stores had the same expenses as private stores, we know who could turn a profit.
Nil
the wages of the government employees working in the govt stores is far to high for their poor customer service skills and poor product knowledge
Any further expansion of liquor stores should be Government run, maintaining the current wage structure. High wages pay off in increased economic activity. Government owned stores should be modernized.
Wages paid to employees at government-run liquor stores are too high vis-a-vis the training/qualifications needed.
Ok you have privatized Land Titles, now you want to privatize SLGA, which Crown is next on your list? That is the question i would like answered.
Travelling through western Canada, the U.S. and parts of Europe I feel that Saskatchewan has lagged behind. Other countries and provinces do not appear to have suffered from easier access to alcohol. I do not feel that government needs to be in the role of selling alcohol although it needs to maintain a regulatory role.
None
As a franchise operator in a small community, I want to see the continued support offered by SLGA, to enable us to continue to serve our customers. I'm all for the status quo. It is working, why tamper with it?
Govt jobs will be lost in several small towns and the profit from the sale of liquor will be transferred to private interests. I cannot see where small towns will benefit from the local grocery store selling liquor in addition to their regular line of products. Towns will lose tax revenue on the stand along property as well as tax revenue from the staff employed at the Govt operated liquor store.
Saskatchewan needs the revenue generated by public liquor stores. Since oil prices are tanking, the lesson is the government shouldn't just count on resource revenue.
Doesn't really matter who owns/runs the retail store, as long as selection is expanded and pricing is fair with reasonable hours and travel distance to the location.
I am tired of hearing about how great it will be to have the liquor stores privatized. The profit the private retailers take is what would have been profit for us in the province. Sure the wages the province pays might be more than what private owners would pay, but even at that the current system makes a profit. And we will loose that. and what advantage is ther to have the employees make less money, being paid by private owners? the more money there is being spent daily in a variety of services

and businesses as folks live their lives, the better of the overall economy is. so replacing a system where the province makes a profit and people get fair wages, with a system where we loose that profit and have citizens paid low wages is about as ridiculous as it gets.
I think the existing government operated stores along with private vendors in smaller centres provide adequate service. They provide employment with reasonable salary levels where the retail and service industry is to a large degree based on casual low wage jobs. How often do we hear about businesses that can't survive without without temporary foreign workers. I will be surprised if private stores will offer greater selection over the longer term. Retailing is based on product turnover and I don't expect private stores will be able to stock slow moving product that can the SLGA stores. The issue of using investing in schools, highways, etc. is not real. We are using P3 models with similar impact to debt financing except that they are not reflected in the budget. Building stores by the SLGA is a business investment carried on their books as an asset and paid off through future increase revenues.
The Brad Wall Government needs to STOP trying to break all the provincial Unions.
I realize the philosophy of the current gov't is to privatize wherever possible but in this case I believe the gov't. should maintain the main outlets as the current primarily gov't stores. I am not a member, nor have I ever been a member of any union. I have bought liquor in Alberta private stores and have been disappointed in the selection and the misleading pricing. When you go to the check out with the price shown on the shelf it becomes meaningless when they add deposits, along with several other charges that change what seemed like a lower price than Sask. prices turns out to be more expensive. I would urge the gov't to re-examine their approach and consider continuing with the current system. I normally purchase my liquor at the South Albert store and appreciate the selection, something smaller stores cannot supply. I understand small town outlets can't afford to supply a wide selection but I really like the South Regina store.
for saying the Government is not in the business of bricks and mortar but still ok to spend on power and cell towers but not for liquor board to compete for business.
The revenue produced by Publicly run liquor outlets more than makes up for the cost of operation. Your question about funding other areas instead of liquor is very misleading. The revenue produced will HELP to fund other public areas, not take money away! Don't take away Publicly funded Liquor sales establishments.
From personal experience, I like the Alberta system. The government gets the revenue at the wholesale level without the cost of maintaining a retail network. With respect to the quality of the private retail stores, the customers will quickly decide who does a good job and who doesn't. The poor performers won't be in business for very long.
Privatization doesn't sit well with me. Keep liquor public! I am a strong supporter of keeping Saskatchewan liquor sales and profits in public hands. Profits from public liquor sales — \$252 million last year — are returned to our communities. They help fund the public services we all care about, like schools, hospitals, long-term care homes, parks, highways, and more. Public liquor sales generated more than \$1.1 billion in profits for Saskatchewan people over the last five years. Why would we want to turn any of that profit over to a handful of private operators? I urge government to stop turning liquor sales and profits over to private, for-profit businesses, and to maintain and enhance our public liquor stores. When liquor sales are public, we all benefit
I believe that it should be in the hands of private stores
I think privatizing the retail section of the liquor industry is a good first step. Would love to see a full Alberta-like style somewhere down the road. Will always vote for the Wall gov't, common sense and a vision for the future
The government should not be involved in alcohol sales. It should be a private business
Move to more private stores as soon as possible!
I think leave things as they are . We do not need job loses now . If it did privatize where does the revenue come from then. I know more from me and that is not acceptable.
Alberta
I believe that liquor sales in the province should remain as they are now. This provides the very best option to maximize profits. In turn this money can be used to benefit all Sask. residents in areas of health care, education, infrastructure etc.
I strongly support maintaining the existing public system AND adding more private outlets. Ensuring a positive experience while visiting a public or private store is very concerning to me and my family. Stores should not allow people to loiter and harass me

or my children if I visit their store. Private or public. There was a windchill into the -40's recently and following grocery shopping at Sobeys in Saskatoon, I needed to get in my vehicle, and drive a few hundred feet across the parking lot to the liquor store to buy wine for our meal. This is ludicrous. Grocery stores need to be permitted to carry wines and beer products in the name of pure customer service and convenience. Thank you for providing this opportunity to offer comments and participate in a survey. It was well publicized and completely necessary to continue moving the Province into the '90's.
Guarantee of stable life of Saskatchewan residents is very important. So the government needs enough budget to take care of health, infrastructure, education, etc. It is expected that the government may confront with shortfall of budget due to unstable oil price and economic situation. I suggest to reconsider once unstable circumstances are fading out.
I have always received good service from the Saskatchewan Liquor stores. I believe we have enough liquor vendors, don't make it easy for people to become drunks and a burden to the health care system. ALBERTA!!!!!! HELLO are you paying attention lately. There system is terrible. BROKE. I'm sick of hearing about Alberta, looks like they are sucking the hind tit right now. This whole questionnaire stinks of a Brad Wall privatization scam. We don't need to be ALBERTA!!!!
alberta copies USA and you want to copy Alberta with liquor on grocery stores. Our province needs this revenue for our hospitals, senior homes etc. Do not privatize !
Keep profits from sale of liquor in govt keep jobs. Do not privatize liquor sales
Do not privatize liquor stores!
Does not make any sense whatso ever to transfer profits out from govn.to others like private sector who will not use these profits to pay for education,medicare,,etc.
If the government doesn't make as much money by privatizing it DO NOT DO IT
I disagree with the pricing on some private stores like ingredients in Saskatoon. The staff in the public stores require product training - for their salaries they are woefully up knowledgeable The special order system is not customer friendly - in fact that is typical of the whole customer experience in the govt stores - not client centred, helpful, perfunctoru. It is sad but the only time there was some customer service in the Saskatoon stores was when Cava was in operation and when it imploded, the attitude reverted back. I think govt liquor stores can provide good and knowlegdeable service ie Ontario and Quebec but the invest iner staff training, I doubt Sask is prepared to do that and therefore it is more likely a private store held to standards can
Keep liquor retail under government control. The taxes and sales go back into the provincial infrastructure. If retail stores were private, then profits would go somewhere else other than to the province.
Keep the Alberta system it works
We need to continue with public liquor stores, very few of the public ventures we have supply the level of revenue we collect from liquor sales. Plus once we get into selling privately could increase the level of under age access to alcohol. Staff in the private setting may not be as knowledgeable of false id identification, or trained as well in procedures of proper sales. Also if you make liquor too expensive crime could increase. If less fortunate people have an addiction to alcohol and cannot afford it, good chance they will steal to get it, could also boost black market, just like high tobacco costs support a lucrative black market for tobacco.
Private is not better and in fact we have revenue, quality job for Saskatchewan people and in the long run.....privatization will make Saskatchewan weak!
Keep the Govt run stores but limit some Grocery Stores to sell Beer & Wine at the same price.
I have a fundamental problem with gov't in the business of retail liquor sales. More private retail!
I am very much in favor of privatising liquor stores. The notion that privatising will put less money in our economy is hog wash, no one needs to make the type of wage our government run stores pay. You do not need a degree to sell booze!!!!
Saskatchewan is the #1 Province in Canada for drinking and driving, the continuation of opening more private stores will impact more of these related issues. Also, the Sobeys and Coop liquor stores in Saskatoon ,actually effect private business sales negatively like pubs, restaurants, and Hotel offsale endorsements. Its too much accessibility with Alcohol especially in Saskatoon, your hurting Private business, and creating social problems with too much accessibility of liquor. The government liquor stores are profitable and they have due care and attention of safety towards minors or intoxicated and

yes they really do have a better selection in public.
We are Sask, and we will really never be Alberta.....so maybe look at 5-years or 10-years from now.....keep it Public, the government liquor stores and the city police have a wonderful relationship. Dont give more problems to other private liquors or stop now.....and think what you are really doing to the Sask Way. Example: Sobeys liquor store was opened on Christmas Eve till 8pm.....and Boxing day from 10am to 10pm...and New Year's Day from 10am to 10pm..... Shame on you, You have turned a brand new area of Saskatoon to a severe problem area for the young generation, and all this has effected sales in Restaurants and pubs and Hotel with offSale endorsements in this area. I BELIEVE THIS IS NOT THE SASK WAY.... KEEP LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC WITH REGULATION, TODAYS AND TOMMORROW S YOUNG ARE NOT DOING THAT WELL, HOUSES AND RENTS ARE TOO COSTLY IN SASK. Thank you for your time. Your decision will negatively effect my vote if you privatized the government liquor stores in the election. SO KEEP ALL LIQUOR STORES PUBLIC !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Why sell something that makes the province \$
I live in Prince Albert where alcohol abuse is a problem. I feel the government needs to maintain control over the sale of alcohol due to the negligence the majority of off sale outlets exhibit. The government also needs to maintain the income from the alcohol sales.
should remain government owned. They provide a great sevice and employ hard working Saskatchewan people
Expanded Government retail system is the only way to go.
I think the government should stay with public stores as an awesome way to make money for the province to help with education, health care and infrastructure.
I am a very strong supporter of government run and regulated liquor outlets. Alcohol is a regulated substance and should remain closely free of the potential pitfalls associated with privately run retail outlets. There is a far greater risk of underage purchases in private establishments whose bottom line is to make the sale to get the profit. I'd much rather have a well paid government employee at the cash register that will make sure they are not selling to a minor as they take their job seriously and are not influenced by the need to make the sale. As well the profits from government run outlets is essentially a form of user based tax that benefits all of us whether we are a consumer of alcohol or not. That profits from a regulated substance should go to anyone other than our government coffers has always been self-evident to me and I believe it would be a disservice to the tax payers of our province to have individual retailers profit instead of all of us.
I don't think the raising of price helps moderate alcohol consumption. I have strong views that lower restrictions can remove the stigma around something, resulting in less abuse of something, and that addictions are primarily caused by environmental factors. I believe that the privatization of liquor sales will not have a negative impact on the province.
Saskatchewan needs the revenues from the government operated stores not losing that revenue to the private pocket. We love Saskatchewan if I wanted to live in Alberta I would move there.
Questions are very leading in this survey. I do NOT support the privatization of any public service including liquor sales.
Give the putblic stats on alchohol abuse in sask versus other provinces.
The crime rate in Saskatchewan has a high enough crime rate already, we do not need a privately run liquor store on every corner or alcohol sold in Walmart fueling the crime rate even more.
Keep liquor sales in the hands of the government. We need all the profit to go into the hands of all the people of Sask. Not in the hands of friends of the Sask party. We need good paying jobs, not anymore Mc jobs.
Keep liqueur sales public to ensure local communities get a return on monies or funded sports organizations.
Quit selling off the assets that make money.Keep the loiquor stores.
the govt must keep liquor stores public whereas the public benefits rather if it went private, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, however I forecast that liquor will privatize because that's what this govt is all about looking after the rich, keep the poor poor whereas they can continue employing police, judges, social workers, correctional workers etc. the way I see it they should classify alcohol the same as marijuana, the argument is that there are social drinkers which is true but there is also social pot smokers that do no harm to society in fact is less of an evil than alcohol. these are my thoughts which policy makers, goverments etc will not see because they are well to do and do not see out of any other perspective than their own

I DO NOT want to see out of province ownership of Saskatchewan liquor stores . I am disappointed to hear that SCOBYS owns one of the new stores.COOP is okay but I will quit supporting you guys if you sell off more of Saskatchewan to outfits that take the the profits out of Saskatchewan.We have people in the province to run and finance individual independant private stores where they are needed BUT PLEASE DO NOT give this money maker to big out of province companies or large outfits that can choke out individual stores and still take their profits to New York or Toronto . Think SASKATCHEWAN FIRST !!! Thank you !!
Selling off our public stores is a big mistake. They are profitable with good product selection and provide good jobs for the people of Saskatchewan.
The provincial government should not be in the liquor business. As a Sask Party supporter, I would hope that we follow Alberta's model along with a hybrid of the american model where Alcohol can be purchased in grocery stores all while lowering the cost and the government still receiving adequate amount of sales tax. There is no viable reason why union wages need to be paid out to have someone stock liquor shelves. The argument that government owned liquor stores create safer environments and reduce minors from purchasing product is a completely false one. Similar programs such as mystery shops and retailer educational trianing/sign-off similar to that found in the tobacco retail industry could be followed. Saskatchewan is still seen as a "have-not" product when it comes to keeping up with modern social conventions and ideals. Its quite shocking that in 2015 we still have as many crown corporations as we do, very to little private white collared opportunities for our university graduates to apply for all the while we still have archaic laws on items like liquor purchases, consumption and adult strip clubs. The Sask Party was a hope for change and a hope to move us into a more modern era that would put years of Union strong arming and left-wing big brother social agendas behind us. Do the right thing, eliminate all publicly owned government retail facilities,follow the Alberta model and follow a 100% private enterprise to be established all the while sales taxes can assist more important government programming.
Keep our liquor stores PUBLIC!!
Open it up
No need for the government to have these stores. More stores, less overhead equates to greater sales and greater taxation for government and less people loading up in Alberta and not purchasing in SK.
Do not privatize liquor stores!!
I have lived in other jurisdictions that have privatized liquor sales. Privatization results in minors gaining easier access to liquor, loss of well paying jobs or revenue in rural areas and an increase in liquor store robberies. The promised benefits of privatization never materialize. Not that anyone expects a political promise to actually be fulfilled but liquor store privatization increases social harm with a monetary benefit for only a very few. And with privatization you rarely get beer and wine sales in grocery stores, a move that would make sense.
we should stay the same as we are, where is the funds that come from the sale of liquor going to come from if this is taken away. If the system isn't broken why fix it. It seems we're like a small puppy following the big dog, what ever Alberta does we follow thinking it must be right, well it doesn't look right from this side of the fence.We should continue to invest in our stores and keep the revenue that comes from these stores to fund the other projects that will continue to grow in our Province. I can see the small breweris want to sell there product by themselves, I don't have a problem with that, but the rules are the same for everyone, when you start making different rules for different people that comes around and bites you in the ass every time.
I have no issue with current level of availability of liquor outlets and hours of business. Privatizing will reduce existing government job levels and most likely reduce wages as privatized operations tend to pay less.
To me, it's all about price. How can I go into alberta and get the same product (when it's on sale) for 30% less?
I worry about the loss of revenue for the government if liquor stores were to be fully privatized. It is one thing to support the business community...it is another to sell off a profitable government-owned corporation. Don't fix what isn't really broken.....maintain it!!!!
Why would you throw away a money making buisness, that you can use the financial gain from to finance other projects? Why would you take away more public sector jobs that can provide a healthy living for my children? do not give away Saskatchewan's future to other provinces when we can keep our children here with the allour of good jobs, and pensions!
All you'd have to do is lower the ridiculous taxes we pay on alcohol here! Do you think it has slowed down alcohol consumption??? NOT a chance look around for goodness sake! I can go to AB or the US and buy the same alcohol for drastically lower prices.....why then would I not buy out of our province/country?
Selection second to none at Saskatoon Sobeys. Government liquor store employees only there as easy secure job, not because

they are passionate about selling or promoting products.
I do not think governments can control drinking as much as they might like, the reason is there is always going to be people willing to purchase the products for minors! Unfortunately this has been the case when I was a minor, and from what I understand it still goes on today!
I think it is about time that we moved to private liquor sales. The puritan "we get to control everything" aspect of saskatchewan is old and outdated. The government needs to stop wasting money on debating this and advertisements about this issue. Just let it go. We are all sick of being under the old boys club that succumbs to the 70 plus crowd. This province is getting younger now, start to think younger, progressive and this is just one way that we can do it.
Stop privatizing my Saskatchewan...let all of us share in the profits, not a few private owners. We have many who struggle with alcoholism and need to ensure it is not overly affordable to abuse.
It is time that Saskatchewan quit being so backwards about how liquor is retailed. Could we stop being at the mercy of Unions stopping any forward progression.
I strongly believe that the revenue generated from public liquor stores is better for the province than taxation on sales through the private sector. I feel that the Saskatchewan government can definitely increase the variety and lower the pricing and still maintain profits. Nothing except prohibition will prevent people from purchasing alcohol.
Rather than merely maintaining the current level of public retail outlets, the province should draw on the expertise already developed within its liquor retailing system to invest in new retail opportunities within the public system. The current retail outlets serve to maximize the public interest in both generating revenue and ensuring the socially responsible distribution of alcohol; additional public outlets would achieve far more to meet the same goal than an increased private presence.
The government will get their tax money no matter who sells the product, Example the PST. Private liquor stores take a greater risk by selling to minors, government employees do not get fired[SGEU sees to that] and government liquor stores will not lose their licence for breaking the law!
The government should be getting out of the retailing of liquor
As a government, do not lose control or revenue from liquor as you have given up in other areas already. Liquor is not an essential but rather a luxury. If government revenues are reduced these will have to be made up elsewhere. On the flip side, the liquor stores must ensure that they are being operated in an efficient cost effective manner, like would privately. I believe that because these are unionized places of employment that the interest of the consumers are sometimes overlooked as some of the employees are better protected under their agreements where as in the private sector their work ethic would not be tolerated.
we are in Sask not Alberta don't follow their plan!
I think that the government will make the same money from private sellers, because they don't have to pay workers or building maintenance.
I believe that it is time to privatize liquor stores in Sask.
The Government needs to focus its energy on supporting our healthcare system, roads and infrastructure. I understand that the Government operating liquor retail stores and controlling the availability of alcohol has been part of their mandate for years. This doesn't align with what the province needs and the government needs to adjust to support the province of Saskatchewan and its residents. Liquor needs to be provided by other retailers to allow the government to concentrate on more important issues to the province. This is a democracy, start treating it like one.
Alberta style or a mix of public/private retailing seem to be the best options. Having an RFP to give exclusive retailing rights within a geographic area would be extremely counterproductive and disastrous for both consumers and the economy.
Jobs and taxes lost when Ituna was closed but the alternative allows for better hours and the same selection, but the closure will result in the competitor closing.
I am very pleased with the service and selection I find in SLGA stores, the cleanliness and safety, and the professionalism of the staff. Having visited private stores in BC and Alberta, I don't believe the same level of service and good prices can be duplicated by private operators. There is no crying need for liquor privatization - our province has a lot of other far more important challenges on its plate, so why are we talking about liquor sales? I think you should put this on the back burner until you figure out how to deal with poor conditions in private nursing homes, for example.
Strongly support the establishment of private stores, availability in/near grocery stores. Would like to see wider availability of local craft beers, spirits, etc.
I think profits should and good jobs should stay in Saskatchewan instead of corporations who may not pay taxes or invest in the province.

Govt should get out of the liquor business. Make it private.
Government liquor sales are a cash cow of epic proportions? Why on earth would you even consider privatizing it?
Why would you get rid of a company that makes money for you.to support other things.
We lost our liquor store to a private business. We were pretty ticked off to hear this but the liquor was relocated to a private store and he is able to provide extra hours plus an awesome selection. We love it. Also our hotel has extended his sale of liquor and provides an excellent selection of chilled wine and beer. Absolutely NO complaints from us. Our govt liquor store had become a meeting ground for coffee & this was not conducive to all of us receiving the PRIVACY and service we were entitled to and appreciated. Good job.
All liquor handling should be private. I don't consider the "private" liquor stores we now have as private. If I owned a liquor store that would be private. Co op & Sobeys are 2 major conglomerates that are no different than having government ownership.
Alberta style.
As a Sask resident I am proud of the quality of jobs related to the liquor industry in our province. I dread having to make up the revenue shortfall when privatization happens, plus the jobs replacing retailers will be low paid, no benefits. It is time to address brew pub rules so I can buy Bushwacker beer at the liquor store. (p.s. I am not a SGEU member or gov employee)
I think the elimination of public liquor stores would be a detriment to government revenues stream and the addition of private stores will only see the profits that are made leave the province and pad the profits of large retailers. There is no added value to private stores as the large majority of the public is well served by the current system. The idea of wanting more variety via a private store is a red herring. most revenue in the sytem is derived from a very narrow band of products.
Just go private already. Quit wasting time and money on Government stores. Government should not be in the business
Please just make the change to more private stores. GET OUT OF THE WAY!!!!
Time to start being a province in the real world. Its 2015 already. Regina can't even get a law abiding strip club...its OK to keep that in the back alleys, just like it is with liquor people bring back from Alberta because SLGA will not sell anything different.
Privatizing liquor and increasing the amount of retailers in a province where the rates of alcoholism and drinking and driving are significantly higher than the national average would be a huge mistake. Not to mention the amount of well paying jobs that would be lost to low-paying private retailers. Offer a better selection and install walk-in beer coolers, because those are the only real beefs people in this province have about our stores. Keep liquor public please.
I believe Saskatchewan cannot support a liquor store on every corner. I have concerns of the private corporation putting money in their pocket for profit only. I have been in many Government liquor stores in the province. I have always received the best service and the ability to order any product that I may want. Based on stats I have read in the media, it is very clear Sask has a higher per capita usage of alchohol. How will the government oversee the responsibility, when the private corner store cashier is 19 years of age and his young friends are purchasing. As a parent this is very scary. All the owner cares about is the money in his pocket. I witnessed this a cold beer and wine store in Sask. I was disgusted with the peer pressure and the sale proceeded anyway. Not sure what can of worms the government is interested in opening. I would hope peer pressure isn't a factor in their decisions???
I am not in favour of increasing liquor outlets in Saskatchewan, not in any way at all. Sales of liquor increase medical costs, harm people's health, damage safe, happy home life, contribute to accidents and death, contribute to abuse of family members, influence separation and divorce, etc. Having seen some of the results of overuse of liquor, street arguments, deaths from car rollovers while drunk, watching friends wait by the door of the pub trying to get their dad to come home, seeing a young man in his 40's lose his life from over imbibing liquor, etc. I am not in favour of increasing availability of liquor in Sask. The government needs to keep the profits from alcohol to support our medical care. It's sad but true that the sale of liquor contributes to the cost.
The current level of government involvement in liquor sales is ridiculous when compared to almost any other western democracy. To suggest that the social impacts of alcohol are influenced by the governments invovment in retailing is laughable.
Alberta has had private liquor stores for many years and it's great! Lower costs and better variety for consumers. And I won't have to haul my alcohol from Alberta any more.
The Government should not be in the buisness of alcohol privatetize it now allow consumers chioce Allow more small buisness and selection
Keep liquor stores public so everyone may benefit from the revenues, also keep the government workers in those stores, because private industry will only hire minimum wage employees in their private stores and that won't help our economy on bit!

Already too many low paying jobs in this province!!
Personally I don't think the government needs to be involved in the liquor stores. Obviously some government regulations and laws related to alcohol are important. In fact, just go back to prohibition and ban it all again. Society would be much better off, and so would the government finances, for all the problems alcohol causes. Thanks for listening.
My main interest is that private liquor stores have access to a larger selection of products. As a beer drinker, I rarely have interest in purchasing a 24 of any type of beer, craft or macro. I am more interested in the options available for single cans/bottles of beer (1 - 6 at a time of purchase). Yesterday I was in the Sobeys liquor store in Saskatoon and was very impressed with the selection of beer in their cooler. I have already recommended folks that when they travel to Saskatoon (as I am in Regina), to stop in there on their way home. Needless to say, I will be happy when the Sobeys liquor store opens in Regina.
I don't see how gov't can receive the same amount of markup from sales through private vendors who receive a 16% discount on their purchase price -- where is the 16% coming from if not the markup? I agree the NET may be similar once gov't operating costs are accounted for. Regarding your question 'should gov't invest in other priorities instead of operating liquor stores?' I don't see where there will be more money available to invest, i.e. over & above current investments in public priorities. At best, revenue will be similar (ie 15% gov't operating costs eliminated in exchange for 16% discount to private retailers).
Government should encourage small micro breweries and distillers by making it easier to get product to consumers.
This government has not had a strong reputation in the labour sector or with it's treatment of crown corp. These are things that increase provincial revenue and the people who work at these venues pay taxes as well. The narrow minded one track methodology of this government astounds me
If there was 2.5 million profit at the SGLA last year, why does the consumer not know what that money was out towards. Being a frequent traveler to USA & Alberta, we gring at the price & having to buy all & any liquor in Saskatchewan
I think that the government is too regulated - they should have other options for retailers and then let the chips fall where they may - people will always choose cheaper prices because they don't see the long term effects of the social programs needed and maybe believe the government is not putting it where it is the most needed. All we see is the government profiting from it and not where the moeny goes.
Stop picking winners and losers. Treat it like the business it is and sell the rights to sell alcohol like the Feds do cell phone frequencies. That way only large stores will bid on available licenses and we won't end up with small liquor stores everywhere. I want Sobeys and Costco to pay for the write to sell alcohol... not giving it away for free to the Willow. Private retailers should be about convenience as a consumer (grocery stores) and increased revenue to SLGA.
I'm a regular shopper at the SLGA liquor stores. I find it to be the worst shopping experience compared to all of my other consumer shopping, i.e.; groceries, clothing, hardware, etc. Why is it in this day and age we need the government owning retail liquor stores? This is 2015 isn't it? Maybe we should have the government own all of our stores...oh yeah, that would be communism
I can understand if the consumption taxes are in place. Even though I think they are unnecessary but to have government employees getting payed such an excessive amount to run a liquor store is mind blowing to me.
Let the market decide. Imposing minimum prices doesn't curb drinking. It encourages solvent and mouthwash abuse. Don't disguise a morality judgement by calling it a safety concern.
I don't believe that privatizing liquor sales will bring additional revenue to the province.
I have visited others out side of saskatchewan and have stocked up before returning do to cheaper prices and wide section . and not limited to the brands we have here and when you do order something you aren't required to purchase a whole case full
I am an advocate for responsible drinking and ensuring we have regulations about who can drink (age), where they can drink. That said, I have seen the US model with unfettered competition work well to balance the buying experience for the consumers and pricing. By moving the liquor purchase arena out of government hands you allow the government to focus on those items which need more focus - healthcare, policing, education. The wages and cost structure of government owned stores makes no sense to me. I own a family business and am on the executive team for a large scale business, as far as retailing goes competition and market forces should dictate. Nowhere in the world will you find someone stocking shelves with beer and making \$20+ dollars per hour plus benefits - the job requirements don't meet the salary. I applaud the government for at least looking into the private retail option and seeking public feedback vs. union advertising.
I would like to see the sale of liquor privatized and I would like to see it sold in grocery stores and convenience stores. We are

allowed to buy smokes in corner stores, why not liquor? Both require ID verification. I'm not a frequent drinker at all but I still feel strongly about this issue. I think there are savings in operation costs for the government to get out of the retail end of the liquor business...benefits, salaries, infrastructure are all costs we wouldn't have to carry and cover.
Small towns should continue to keep licences at a minimum as per # of community members
No comments
I do NOT consume or purchase alcohol beverages, but I wished to voice opinions on the debate which is taking place.
Keep liquor profits in Sask, not in private business person's hands.
The background information offered on "Government revenues and the cost of liquor retailing in Saskatchewan" was unclear. The first two sentences are phrased in such a way as to show no connection between the two statements. This is confusing, and fails to articulate the point of the information being provided. I see no reason for the government to discontinue a service that provides jobs and makes money. While I'm glad there is a desire to invest money in other areas of public concern, the potential loss of income to the government by privatizing liquor (with no guarantee of improved service to consumers, and a near guarantee of equal or increased prices) makes no fiscal sense. Government liquor stores have always seemed excellent to me, and part of a good system. Why try to fix what isn't broken?
Sell beer and wine in grocery stores but not hard liquor. I like our system better than Alberta's. We should raise the legal age to 21 for gambling and alcohol consumption.
As an owner of a licensed fine dining bistro I would love a greater selection of beer and wine. Looking forward to changes.
The government should not build any more liquor stores should allow private operation including in grocery stores. I also strongly believe existing stores should be privatized.
I think a hybrid model would serve SK best. Maintain the current liquor stores and jobs, but allow grocers to sell it as well. I do not think there will be a huge difference in price or selection or convenience if we go private, so really the major difference will be a change in tax revenues and a loss of government jobs.
Enjoy shopping at liquor stores in Alberta and in the states
To me this step one in privatizing the crown corps. I strongly think free enterprise is needed to produce a stronger sask economy. Too many unions protecting government jobs resulting in poor service or no service to the sask people. If you think I'm wrong. Ph sg with a Question and see For your self. Or why your phone bill is always More then the plan you paid for! Etc... Alberta has a Strong economy and should be our example !
I find the questions at times are not clear/helpful - they are skewed. It is not true that the government can spend more money on other priorities if it removes itself from the sale of alcohol...Proper involvement and oversight of the sale of alcohol has huge consequences for the well being of the population...it is not just about money. While having some retail outlets can help to serve some rural communities it is not necessary to do an either/or...doing a both/and can be helpful. Alcoholism is a serious problem here in Saskatchewan and the cost to the health system and social well being is rather significant. Access is important but it is not everything. At times government needs to regulate the sale of alcohol because we do not always do what is best or we make decisions without a full picture of what is at stake. Popularity with the voters (lobby group) is hardly a good reason for a government to abandon values. Any decisions taken should be taken not for monetary advantage alone but also for the common good of our society. Thanks for the opportunity to have a voice.
I find the TV Ads put out by the Union, to give very false impressions. The money can do the same amount of good for the community, regardless of who sells the items.
Allow franchises to sell domestic beer Such as Coors light,Pilsner,Budwieser.
Get out of retail Govt Liquor stores Private store owners must be residents of Saskatchewan for a minimum of 10 years
All private. Eliminate Brick and Mortar. With revenue equal to current why maintain buildings, staff wages & benefits. Eliminating these should provide more revenue for government to apply to other much needed services ie. Health Care.
Lower the taxes. Everyone goes to Alberta for alcohol so sask government gets nothing. Absolutely absurd being a have province with alcohol tax as high as it is. Higher prices isn't going to curb alcoholism it's a disease.

Don't sell operations that make money. Any government revenue that isn't income tax is a good thing.
Liquor retailing should be government regulated to ensure liquor regulations are being upheld, revenue is going back to tax payers, and have good employment provided in our communities. If liquor retailing goes private than government and tax payers lose control. Also the economic downfalls are extreme if employment is left in the hands of private companies that are going to hire less people at lower wages. Don't privatize liquor retailing.
The privatization of liquor sales is a horrible idea. The revenue generated by liquor sales is hugely important. The only way private liquor will be able to make a profit is to lower wages which just means you have big companies taking the money out of the province instead of employees re - spending their wages here. I know people say that alcohol is so much cheaper elsewhere, I haven't really found this, but the implications to these slightly lower costs are concerning (reduced govt revenue, lower wage employees, increased alcohol consumption, etc).
Please, keep liquor public. Perhaps even work towards making it more public than it is now.
Please stop trying to privatize liquor stores. Most of the changes the government is suggesting (i.e. better selection) can be easily accomplished within the current system. Why is it so important for this government to have private individuals making money from liquor sales?
The current selection and availability of craft beer is deeply disappointing. I can drive to a smaller center in Alberta, such as Medicine Hat and get an exponentially better selection in a small store than anywhere in Saskatchewan, regardless of public or privately run stores. Our current alcohol system is greatly behind the times.
I believe we should continue operating government owned stores for the revenue they bring to the province. Going private will be harmful to our province.
There needs to be more private stores like Alberta, who can set their own prices and product selection. I always purchase alcohol in Alberta when possible.
We need the profits from liquor sales, not having them go into someone's pocket.
Stocking of shelves and working checkout do not need to be gov't position. Selection needs to improve to allow easier access to craft and niche brewers.
I feel the government should leave liquor stores to private business similar to Alberta or the US. Not support Unions.
I would like to purchase all beverages at the same location instead of having to make several stops to different stores at different locations.
I have concerns about loss of decent paying jobs with benefits for employment which is in the minimum wage range for employees without any benefits. Very regressive way to treat people.
I think all the liquor stores should be private. It would be great if small business (not co-op) would be given a chance to participate. The govt. would still receive the same amount in taxes. The govt. could sell all the liquor stores and get rid of all the high priced union employees. We have far too much Govt. in this province and I think we need to get rid of a bunch of crown corps. Brad Wall says that Sask. is open to small business. Private liquor retailing would be good for small business and save the Govt. a lot of money. Thanks for having this survey.
I strongly believe we need to privatize more outlets. We do not need any more high priced union jobs.
Keep all liquor stores public. It keeps the money in the community.
I appreciate the private stores for their variety and for their occasional sale prices. I am frustrated that the government sets restrictions on the sale prices they can provide.
I have experience with the privately run stores in Alberta and do not find them to be any cheaper in several categories than in Sask. shopping in them does not contribute to Sask.'s economy or to the taxes Sask. gains to be used for health & education. What is wrong with having government jobs with decent wages and benefits. The employees in the private stores are not paid as well and therefore do not contribute to their home communities at the same level. We should be finding good jobs for everyone, not reducing everyone to lower levels.
Do not privatize any more of our businesses.
Private liquor stores should be allowed. No new government stores need to be built There should be no loss in revenue for the government nor loss of hard gained assets.

Government stores should be required/allowed to compete on variety of selection and product knowledge, not crippled to the advantage of private stores.
A mix of options and competitive environment
I DO NOT WANT TO SEE PRIVATIZATION TO MAKE A FEW WEALTHY! I THINK GOVERNMENT RUN FACILITIES ARE GOOD FOR THE TAXPAYER.
would prefer more expansion of private retail outlets
I believe the gov't is not losing money by being in the liquor business and so why should they sell off a huge "cash cow" - we can use the earnings from those sales to invest in other areas. re-directing monies needed to operate the liquor businesses is not going to net a gain in the end. If they are losing money, that's one thing, but I suspect they are MAKING money for the government.
Alberta-Style Fully Private Retail System would be my preference
I hope you think about the social responsibility that goes with the sale and consumption of alcohol. Totally opposed to this idea of privatizing the liquor stores. I voted for this party but am wondering if that was the right thing to do. You should focus more time and energy and resources on our failing care of seniors, highways, and waiting times in hospitals.....
Moved from Alberta....our experience of the liquor sales privatization was very positive. Owners/staff had to give good customer service or their business went downhill really fast. Just found a wonderful wine store the last time we were in Sherwood Park...what a treat to find such a selection under one roof!
Why bother with private stores. The government ones we have are great just the way there are.
I think the government should continue with the current model. Privatization would cost tax payers millions of dollars.
Keep it public. The province should have the benefit of the profits, not some private person or corp. The jobs lost will also have an impact.
Just leave as is! Thanks
I would prefer the employees selling liquor to have good government jobs. I would like the government to continue to be able to put profits into much needed programs. I think it is safer and you are more able to control the many harms caused by alcohol, if the government leaves liquor sales mostly in government hands.
The government should be involved in for police and fire protection, roads, education and healthcare. Anything else, they are competing with a private sector and that is not where government belongs. Private liquor stores would lead to better selection, as most products I purchase are not offered here in Saskatchewan currently.
We do not need any more "nany state" thinking in this province, NDP thinking is in the past. The people of this province are capable of making decisions for themselves. If pricing is to control greater consumption then the ones that need a greater amount are doing so a their expeence and the government is profiting from their disease.
1 and 5
I would like to see our Government stores stay open, but I believe there is also a benefit to private stores being open at the same time.
I don't understand the reasoning behind the governments wanting to sell or privatize Liquor stores. This is such an important asset to Saskatchewan and is a way to help pay for the important things in are province. When I watch the news All I hear is the government can't do this or that because they don't have the money, and here is a way to make more money but we want to get rid of it for a one time lump of money which will look like peanuts in two to three years. I would like to see more government run stores opened and less private stores so we get the benift and NOT the private sector!!!!
We appreciate the selection offered by private liquor stores in Alberta; far surpasses the selection available in Saskatchewan provincial liquor stores.
Slim selection available here. Tough to get what I want. Very disapointed to see sask craft beers at govt stores in exactly the opposite corner of the store from the "beer" section. I think they call it the Saskatchewan section. Seems underhanded to me. Doesn't give the local microbrewery much of a chance. Alberta has great selection and so does even Manitoba?!? But sk selection is very poor. Support small breweries instead of taxing them so hard and making it almost impossible for them. And then hiding thier product in the corner!??? Very disapointed. The sask product should be on a fabulous attention drawing display right when you walk in! Not next to the liqueurs in the corner away from its proper section in the store. Very poor. We should be proud of sk product, and supporting it.
I would like to keep it as is. I don't mind paying more for the product when I know the money is going to things to support things in my community such as roads, schooling and other things. I'd hate to see thousands of well paying jobs disapearing due to

employees at these stores have good benefits and usually support their families with these incomes. I strongly disagree with privatizing liquor sales. I feel like there is too much to loose by privatizing these stores.
I think it would be foolish to lose all the revenue that can reinvested in health roads schools etc. if we make liquor stores public. Public stores are only in business to make money for themselves.
Would like to see a better selection of products and lower prices.
Privitizing LB's is going to reduce the pay wage for the citizens of the province, and also reduce the substantial profit that is brought in for the government. I think the gov should change how the LB orders, stocking more canadian wines.
Like other non-liquor retail stores they are open enough hours and probably too many. If the private stores are going to be like the current Willow Park store it is not a very great. At least with private Co-op stores the money stays here. How is the government going to get back lost revenue once they give it away?
Liquor retailing in Saskatchewan should remain the same with 75 government operated liquor stores. I live close to the Alberta border and I DO NOT SUPPORT THEIR PRIVATE INDUSTRY! In Lloydminster alone there are at least 19 stores on the Alberta side of the city. In my opinion you do not need to have a liquor store every time you turn a corner, private stores do not care as long as they make a sale. I choose to live in Saskatchewan because I like it here, and the way things operate with crown corporations such as SLGA, SGI, Sasktel, Saskpower, Sask Energy, etc. PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE WAY THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS, LEAVE IT ALONE!!
off sale should close by mid nite. too much impaired driving and other problems later in evenings.
Let's put the shoe on a different foot. Why doesn't the government have govt owned drug stores to control the sale of controlled drugs. Because it doesn't need to do this. The private sector does a good job of controlling the sale of controlled drugs. Why do we need the govt to sell us alcohol. Get the govt out of business and invest that time and money into better services for our citizens - not creating more jobs that can be easily provided by the private sector.
Everything I have read indicates no financial or social benefit to privatizing. Changes to regulations to benefit small breweries and wineries may be indicated.
We need to keep Saskatchewan people working, in good paying jobs. Anything less increases the burden on taxpayers and stakeholders. In the privately owned stores I've visited out of province the pride in one's work is simply not there as it is in our employees here. Saskatchewan simply cannot afford to lose the money generated from our LB's and our people cannot afford to lose any more jobs. Period. Thank you for this opportunity.
I just think that it should stay as is. They are making money doing this so why sell it.
We spend winters in Hawaii and are able to buy all our liquor at competitive prices when we buy groceries. I don't understand why free enterprise can't be allowed to run Liquor sales and distribution in Saskatchewan. No more need for government in this business than there is in the sale of tobacco, food or gasoline.
alberta
clear data needed.
Loss of re en us has to come from somewhere. If a crown is profitable, it should be maintained.