



# Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation

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## The Special Committee on Traffic Safety

Dear Committee Members,

The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) proudly represents over 32,000 members from 121 branches across Saskatchewan and is considered to be, per capita, the largest wildlife conservation organization of its kind in the world

It's estimated that over 250,000 Saskatchewan residents enjoy hunting and angling in our Province and that these activities generate in excess of \$500 million to the economy of Saskatchewan each year.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit written recommendations to the Special Committee on Traffic Safety.

For over a decade the SWF has worked in partnership with Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) and more recently with the Ministry of Environment (MOE), on public awareness programs that have focused on wildlife collisions under the names of "Save a Buck", "Save a Little Doe" and "Moose on the Loose" Campaigns. The major thrust of the campaign has been on educating motorists to the possibility of animal encounters and the need for enhanced vigilance in recognized animal corridor areas especially during peak times and seasons. We have also participated in several meetings with Government to discuss this serious issue.

We would like to comment on our observations and recommendations towards a science based approach to reduce wildlife collisions in addition to the public awareness campaign.

We see a lack of productive communication between the stakeholders on these issues and for any successful outcomes the collaborative consultation has to be broken down into specific targeted areas (wildlife management zones). We can, therefore, identify the unique variables that exist in each zone that may be impeding any meaningful progress. As an example; in the zones surrounding our most populous urban areas there may be high populations of some species. The standard decision has been to increase hunting allocations. However, the main deterrent to that action is the lack of access for hunters and therefore no uptake by the hunting community. There are numerous other specific examples we have identified that must be considered in an effective decision making process.

We recognize the importance of addressing the need to reduce wildlife collisions on our highways and roads and maintaining healthy wildlife populations. We would like to extend our commitment and support towards these goals by working cooperatively with the Ministries and the wildlife management professionals of Saskatchewan.

Yours in Conservation,



Darrell Crabbe  
Executive Director  
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation