

Chapter 16

Saskatchewan Government Insurance—Confirming Only Qualified Drivers Remain Licensed

1.0 MAIN POINTS

By February 2022, Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) implemented the one remaining recommendation we reported in 2016 in relation to confirming only qualified drivers remain licensed.

SGI has clear, formal guidance on timeframes to record driver information into its computer system used to administer driver's licences. Staff entered driver information about out-of-province summary offence tickets into the AutoFund IT system within the 14 days outlined in its procedures.

By entering traffic offence information within its expectations, SGI can commence their disciplinary process for unsafe drivers in a timely matter.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The Traffic Safety Act makes SGI responsible for issuing licences to eligible drivers, and confirming that only qualified drivers remain licensed to operate motor vehicles. It may suspend or revoke licences from individuals whose habits or conduct make their operation of a motor vehicle a source of danger to the public. Alternatively, it may sanction them (e.g., require the completion of a defensive driving course).

SGI, on behalf of the Saskatchewan Auto Fund, registers vehicles, licenses drivers, and provides related services to approximately 800,000 drivers and approximately 1.2 million vehicles and trailers in Saskatchewan.¹ Enforcement (e.g., policing) of traffic safety laws is the responsibility of law enforcement—not SGI.

This chapter describes our third follow-up audit of management's actions on the recommendations we made in 2016 about SGI's processes to confirm only qualified drivers remain licensed to operate motor vehicles.² By November 2019, SGI implemented four of our five recommendations.³

To conduct this audit engagement, we followed the standards for assurance engagements published in the *CPA Canada Handbook—Assurance* (CSAE 3001). To evaluate SGI's progress toward meeting our recommendation, we used the relevant criteria from the original audit. SGI's management agreed with the criteria in the original audit.

To carry out our follow-up audit, we interviewed SGI staff and examined guidance provided to staff. We assessed whether SGI followed its guidance for entering out-of-province driver information into its computer system.

¹ *2020–21 Saskatchewan Auto Fund Annual Report*, p. 6.

² *2016 Report – Volume 1, Chapter 15*, pp. 181–199.

³ *2018 Report – Volume 1, Chapter 27*, pp. 281–285 and *2020 Report – Volume 1, Chapter 23*, pp. 241–243.



3.0 STATUS OF RECOMMENDATION

This section sets out each recommendation including the date on which the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies agreed to the recommendation, the status of the recommendation at February 11, 2022, and SGI's actions up to that date.

3.1 Written Guidance for Updating Driver Information Followed

We recommended Saskatchewan Government Insurance establish written guidance outlining expected timeframes for entry of driver information into the computer system used to administer driver's licences. (2016 Report – Volume 1, p. 188, Recommendation 1; Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies agreement December 1, 2016)

Status—Implemented

SGI staff entered driver information and traffic offences occurring out-of-province into its computer system in accordance with its written guidance.⁴

SGI uses the AutoFund IT system to track and maintain key information about drivers. SGI's Driver Programs Procedure Manual provides written guidance for staff to document out-of-province summary offence tickets within 14 days of receipt of the manual ticket through the mail.

In all 30 out-of-province summary offence tickets tested, we found SGI entered the information into its AutoFund system within 14 days.

SGI received more than 16,000 out-of-province summary offence tickets for the period of December 1, 2019 to January 31, 2022.

By entering traffic offence information within its expectations, SGI can commence their disciplinary process for unsafe drivers in a timely matter.⁵

⁴ As reported in our *2020 Report – Volume 1, Chapter 23*, as of November 2019, SGI implemented this recommendation for criminal code convictions, vehicle impoundments, and roadside suspensions.

⁵ Per *The Driving Licensing and Suspension Regulations, 2006*, SGI may assign unsafe drivers demerit points, require further education, or suspend or cancel licences.