

Chapter 21

Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre— Delivering the Impaired Driver Treatment Program

1.0 MAIN POINTS

The Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre provides a residential treatment alternative to incarceration for adults convicted of a second or subsequent impaired driving offence.

Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) reported alcohol and drug involvement as a leading contributing factor in fatal collisions in 2020 causing 36 deaths and 401 injuries.¹ In 2021–22, the Centre provided 6,699 days of care to the 319 clients who were admitted (2020–21: 189 clients).²

By July 2022, the Centre implemented the last remaining recommendation from our 2018 audit regarding the impaired driver treatment program.

The Centre developed the remaining program success measures and targets for its three program objectives, and reported results to its Board quarterly. Having clear and well-defined measures assists the Centre in tracking and monitoring progress toward achieving program objectives. Overall, the Centre was meeting its targets for each of the objectives at April 2022.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

The Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre is responsible for delivering the impaired driver treatment program to reduce driver recidivism (i.e., driving impaired again). The Centre is located in Prince Albert and provides a 28-bed residential treatment alternative to incarceration for adult clients convicted of a second or subsequent impaired driving offence. Clients participate in the three-week treatment program.

As an inpatient treatment facility, the Ministry of Health funds the Centre. The Centre received \$1.13 million from the Ministry in 2021–22 (2020–21: \$1.12 million).³

A Cabinet-appointed Board of Governors oversees the Centre. It is a designated correctional facility under *The Correctional Services Act*, and the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General has a designated seat on the Board. The Centre's vision is to provide a professional and effective response to the community by contributing to public safety and healthy attitudes toward substance use.

¹ SGI, *2020 Saskatchewan Traffic Collisions Report*, pp. 74–75.

² Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre, *Annual Report of the Board of Governors for the Year Ending March 31, 2022*, p. 5.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 4.



2.2 Focus of Follow-Up Audit

This chapter describes our second follow-up audit of management's actions on the last remaining recommendation we first made in 2018.

In 2018, we assessed the Centre's processes to deliver the impaired driver treatment program to reduce recidivism. Our *2018 Report – Volume 1*, Chapter 9, concluded that, from December 1, 2016, to November 30, 2017, the Centre had effective processes to deliver the treatment program to reduce recidivism, other than in the areas identified in our 10 recommendations.⁴ By August 2020, the Centre implemented nine of the 10 recommendations.⁵

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

To complete this follow-up audit, we interviewed key staff; reviewed the Centre's program objectives, measures and targets; and reviewed a sample of quarterly reports to the Board.

3.0 STATUS OF RECOMMENDATION

This section sets out each recommendation including the date on which the Standing Committee on Public Accounts agreed to the recommendation, the status of the recommendation at July 31, 2022, and the Centre's actions up to that date.

3.1 Measures to Evaluate Success of Treatment Program Set

We recommended the Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre set measurable expectations to use in evaluating and reporting on the success of its treatment program to reduce impaired driving. (*2018 Report – Volume 1*, p. 131, Recommendation 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement January 12, 2022)

Status—Implemented

The Centre set measurable expectations (measures and targets) for all three of its program objectives, and reported the results to its Board.

As shown in **Figure 1**, in October 2020, the Centre's Board approved the remaining program success measures and targets for the Centre's three program objectives.

⁴ *2018 Report – Volume 1*, Chapter 9, pp. 127–141.

⁵ *2020 Report – Volume 2*, Chapter 38, pp. 273–281.

Figure 1—Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Program Success Measures

| | Measure | Target |
|--|--|--|
| Objective 1 Develop skills and increase motivation | Results of pre and post-tests for clients as a measure of motivation level and skills (i.e., problem solving, social skills, stage of change, self-efficacy, decisional balance). Tests are used to measure skills upon entry and at completion of the program. | Maintain 70% or higher improvement rates in client program test results |
| Objective 2 Provide home community service options | Types of community supports (e.g., probation, addictions services, Alcoholics Anonymous, non-structured support such as friends, family, cultural traditions) clients choose to access after completing the treatment program | 100% of clients aware of supports in their communities Provide all clients with information on post-program support |
| Objective 3 Work with partner agencies to maintain health services and positive public relations | To create an environment that promotes client and staff safety by promoting a culture of quality improvement and safety. 1) Quarterly reports on client safety incidences with the goal of zero unaddressed and unresolved incidences 2) Quarterly reports on staff safety incidences with the goal of achieving zero Workers' Compensation Board claims (or zero unaddressed) 3) Quarterly OH&S meetings with zero unresolved OH&S items | Zero unaddressed incidences |

Source: Adapted from Saskatchewan Impaired Driver Treatment Centre information.

Note: Shaded areas highlight the new measure and targets approved by the Board at its October 2020 meeting.

Each quarter, the Centre provides the Board with summarized results for each objective.

We reviewed the quarterly reports between April 2021 and July 2022. We found the Centre adequately reported the summarized results to its Board and, for the most part, was meeting the targets. If a target was not met, the Centre described action plans to improve the results.

For example, the January 2022 report noted for Objective 1 that clients had not met the improvement target in relation to social skills and decisional balance (i.e., did not maintain improvement rates of 70% or higher). The report noted the Director and clinical supervisor were working with new counsellors to improve client results. By April 2022, the Centre was again meeting its target of 70% or higher improvement rates in client program test results (e.g., social skills, decisional balance).

Having clear and well-defined measures assist the Centre in tracking and monitoring progress toward achieving its program objectives. Reporting results against measures and targets also assist the Centre in determining whether its treatment program operates effectively.

