

## COUNTRY PROFILE

### 1993 HAGUE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION CONVENTION<sup>1</sup>

#### RECEIVING STATE

**COUNTRY NAME:** Canada - Province of Saskatchewan

**PROFILE UPDATED ON:** April 2024

### PART I: CENTRAL AUTHORITY

1. Contact details <sup>2</sup>	
Name of office:	Ministry of Social Services
Acronyms used:	MSS
Address:	10 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 1920 Broad Street, Regina, SK, S4P 3V6
Telephone:	(+1) 306-787-5698
Fax:	(+1) 306-798-0038
E-mail:	salim.otiso@gov.sk.ca
Website:	<a href="https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/births-and-adoptions/adoption">https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/births-deaths-marriages-and-divorces/births-and-adoptions/adoption</a>
Contact person(s) and direct contact details (please indicate language(s) of communication):	<p>Salim Otiso-Director of Operational Support, Child and Family Programs, 306-787-5698, <a href="mailto:Salim.otiso@gov.sk.ca">Salim.otiso@gov.sk.ca</a>;</p> <p>Tana Sali, Manager of Post Care Services, 306-798-0496, <a href="mailto:Tana.Sali@gov.sk.ca">Tana.Sali@gov.sk.ca</a>;</p> <p>Danielle Banin, Supervisor of Post Care Services, 306-798-5130, <a href="mailto:danielle.banin@gov.sk.ca">danielle.banin@gov.sk.ca</a>;</p> <p>Kevin Kane, Assistant Supervisor of Post Care Services, 306-787-7997, <a href="mailto:kevin.kane@gov.sk.ca">kevin.kane@gov.sk.ca</a>;</p> <p>Stephanie Ross, Intercountry Adoption Worker, 306-787-2786, <a href="mailto:Stephanie.Ross@gov.sk.ca">Stephanie.Ross@gov.sk.ca</a>, <a href="mailto:intercountry.adoption@gov.sk.ca">intercountry.adoption@gov.sk.ca</a>;</p>

<sup>1</sup> Full title: the *Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption* (referred to as the "1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention" or the "1993 Convention" in this Country Profile). Please note that any reference to "Articles" (or Art. / Arts for short) in this Country Profile refers to Articles of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention.

<sup>2</sup> Please verify whether the contact details on the Hague Conference website < [www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net) > under "Intercountry Adoption Section" then "Central Authorities" are up to date. If not, please e-mail the updated contact information to < [secretariat@hcch.net](mailto:secretariat@hcch.net) >.

English is the language spoken.



*If your State has designated more than one Central Authority, please provide contact details for the further Central Authorities below and specify the territorial extent of their functions.*

Canada is a federal State made up of 10 provinces and 3 territories. A federal Central Authority and a Central Authority for each of the territorial units have been designated. The contact information for all Canadian Central Authorities appears in Part 1 of Canada's main Country Profile. The contact information for the Central Authority for the province of Saskatchewan and specific information on the operation of the Convention in this province appear in this Annex.

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## PART II: RELEVANT LEGISLATION

<b>2. The 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention and domestic legislation</b>	
<p>a) When did the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention enter into force in your State?</p> <p><i>This information is available on the <a href="#">Status Table</a> for the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention (accessible via the <a href="#">Intercountry Adoption Section</a> of the Hague Conference website &lt; <a href="http://www.hcch.net">www.hcch.net</a> &gt;).</i></p>	<p>See Canada's main Country Profile. For Saskatchewan, it came into effect on April 1, 1997</p>
<p>b) Please identify the legislation / regulations / procedural rules which implement or assist with the effective operation of the 1993 Convention in your State. Please also provide the date of their entry into force.</p> <p><i>Please remember to indicate how the legislation / regulations / rules may be accessed: e.g., provide a link to a website or attach a copy. Where applicable, please also provide a translation into English or French if possible.</i></p>	<p>.The Adoption Act, 1998, The Adoption Regulations, 2003 and Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Implementation Act.</p> <p>The Adoption Act, 1998:  <a href="http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=391">http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=391</a></p> <p>The Adoption Regulations, 2003 (On Jan. 1/17 there were changes to The Adoption Regulations, which mainly apply to Post Adoption):  <a href="http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/english/Regulations/Regulations/a5-2r1.pdf">http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/english/Regulations/Regulations/a5-2r1.pdf</a></p> <p>The Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention) Implementation Act:  <a href="http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/I10-01.pdf">http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/I10-01.pdf</a></p>

<b>3. Other international agreements on intercountry adoption<sup>3</sup></b>	
<p>Is your State party to any other international (cross-border) agreements concerning intercountry adoption?</p> <p><i>See Art. 39.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional agreements (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bilateral agreements (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding memoranda of understanding (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>

<sup>3</sup> See Art. 39(2) which states: "Any Contracting State may enter into agreements with one or more other Contracting States, with a view to improving the application of the Convention in their mutual relations. These agreements may derogate only from the provisions of Articles 14 to 16 and 18 to 21. The States which have concluded such an agreement shall transmit a copy to the depositary of the Convention" (emphasis added).

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## PART III: THE ROLE OF AUTHORITIES AND BODIES

### 4. Central Authority(ies)

Please briefly describe the functions of the Central Authority(ies) designated under the 1993 Convention in your State.

*See Arts 6-9 and Arts 14-21 if accredited bodies are not used.*

The responsibilities of the Saskatchewan Central Authority includes interviewing PAPs and providing information to help with decision making and assessing suitability for the country selected, approval of case plan, education and preparation of PAPs, ensuring a thorough Mutual Family Assessment (MFA) is completed which accurately reflects the circumstances of the PAPs, ensuring dossier requirements are met, providing final approval of the adoption plan, ensuring Ministry and Hague legislation are met and followed to safeguard against illegal activity, notifying authorities when issues arise, reviewing sending country proposals to verify range of acceptance and suitability, presenting the proposal to the PAPs, notifying agencies of PAPs' acceptance/refusal, working with agencies to facilitate the adoption process, supporting PAPs through the adoption process, submitting applicable letters and documentation to agencies and government bodies and following up with PAPs after the adoption has occurred.

The Saskatchewan Central Authority also provides oversight of the post-placement report requirements of the sending State. Pursuant to Article 21 of the Hague Convention, the Central Authority would arrange temporary care and consult with the child's country of origin on future planning in the child's best interests.

<b>5. Public and competent authorities</b>	
<p>Please briefly describe the role of any public and / or competent authorities, including courts, in the intercountry adoption procedure in your State.</p> <p><i>See Arts 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 22, 23 and 30.</i></p>	<p>Saskatchewan courts can become involved in cases where a child enters the province for the purpose of adoption. An example of this would be children from the Philippines.</p>

<b>6. National accredited bodies<sup>4</sup></b>	
<p>a) Has your State accredited its own adoption bodies?</p> <p><i>See Arts 10-11.</i></p> <p><b>N.B.</b> the name(s) and address(es) of any national accredited bodies should be communicated by your State to the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference (see Art. 13).<sup>5</sup></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – <b><u>go to Question 8</u></b></p>
<p>b) Please indicate the number of national accredited bodies in your State, including whether this number is limited and, if so, on what basis.<sup>6</sup></p>	
<p>c) Please briefly describe the role of national accredited bodies in your State.</p>	
<b>6.1 The accreditation procedure (Arts 10-11)</b>	
<p>a) Which authority / body is responsible for the accreditation of national adoption bodies in your State?</p>	
<p>b) Please briefly describe the <i>procedure</i> for granting accreditation and the most important accreditation <i>criteria</i>.</p>	
<p>c) For how long is accreditation granted in your State?</p>	
<p>d) Please briefly describe the criteria and the procedure used to determine whether the accreditation of a national adoption body will be <i>renewed</i>.</p>	
<b>6.2 Monitoring of national accredited bodies<sup>7</sup></b>	
<p>a) Which authority is competent to monitor / supervise national accredited bodies in your State?</p> <p><i>See Art. 11 c).</i></p>	

<sup>4</sup> "National accredited bodies" in this Country Profile means adoption bodies based within your State (receiving State) which have been accredited under the 1993 Convention by the competent authorities in your State. See further *Guide to Good Practice No 2 on Accreditation and Adoption Accredited Bodies* (hereinafter "GGP No 2"), available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](http://www.hcch.net) of the Hague Conference website < [www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net) > at Chapters 3.1 *et seq.*

<sup>5</sup> See GGP No 2, *ibid.*, Chapter 3.2.1 (para. 111).

<sup>6</sup> See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 3.4.

<sup>7</sup> See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 7.4.

b) Please briefly describe how national accredited bodies are monitored / supervised in your State (e.g., if inspections are undertaken, how frequently).	
c) Please briefly describe the circumstances in which the accreditation of bodies can be revoked (i.e., withdrawn).	
d) If national accredited bodies do not comply with the 1993 Convention, is it possible for sanctions to be applied?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify possible sanctions (e.g., fine, withdrawal of accreditation):  <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 7. Authorisation of national accredited bodies to work in other Contracting States (Art. 12)<sup>8</sup>

### 7.1 The authorisation procedure

a) Which authority / body in your State is responsible for the authorisation of national accredited bodies to work with, or in, other Contracting States?	
b) Is authorisation granted as part of the accreditation procedure or is a separate authorisation procedure undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted as part of the accreditation procedure. <input type="checkbox"/> A separate procedure is undertaken for authorisation.
c) Is authorisation granted to national accredited bodies to work in <i>all</i> States of origin or must national accredited bodies apply for authorisation to work in specific, pre-identified State(s) of origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted generally: once authorised, national accredited bodies are able to work in <i>all</i> States of origin. <input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted specifically: national accredited bodies must apply for authorisation to work in one or more pre-identified State(s) of origin.
d) Please briefly describe the <i>procedure</i> for granting authorisation and the most important authorisation <i>criteria</i> . <sup>9</sup>  If your State does not have authorisation criteria, please explain on what basis decisions concerning authorisation are made.  Please also explain whether your State has any criteria concerning how the national accredited body must establish itself in the State(s) of origin or whether this is left entirely to the requirements of the State of origin (e.g., requirements that the body must have a local representative in the State of origin, or must establish a local office).	

<sup>8</sup> In relation to authorisation of accredited bodies, see further GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 4.2.

<sup>9</sup> In relation to authorisation criteria, please see GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapters 2.3.4.2 and 4.2.4.

e) For how long is authorisation granted?	
f) Please briefly describe the criteria and procedure used to determine whether authorisation will be <i>renewed</i> .	
<b>7.2 Monitoring the work of your authorised national accredited bodies in other Contracting States</b>	
a) Please briefly describe how your State ensures that authorised national accredited bodies (including their representatives, co-workers and any other staff <sup>10</sup> in the State of origin) are monitored / supervised by your State in relation to their work / activities <i>in the State of origin</i> .	
b) Please briefly describe the circumstances in which the authorisation of national accredited bodies can be revoked ( <i>i.e.</i> , withdrawn).	

<b>8. Approved (non-accredited) persons (Art. 22(2))<sup>11</sup></b>	
<p>Is the involvement of approved (non-accredited) persons permitted in intercountry adoption procedures in your State?</p> <p><b>N.B.</b> see Art. 22(2) and check whether your State has made a declaration according to this provision. You can verify this on the <a href="#">Status Table</a> for the 1993 Convention, available on the <a href="#">Intercountry Adoption Section</a> of the Hague Conference website.</p> <p>If your State has made a declaration according to Art. 22(2), the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference should be informed of the names and addresses of these bodies and persons (Art. 22(3)).<sup>12</sup></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, our State has made a declaration under Article 22(2) and the involvement of approved (non-accredited) persons is possible. Please specify their role: Saskatchewan approves independent practitioners (IPs) to complete PRIDE training, Mutual Family Assessments (MFA) and post-placement reports. These individuals receive training and certification from the Saskatchewan Central Authority. Training and re-certification occurs every 3 years. There are presently 7 approved independent practitioners.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

## PART IV: THE CHILDREN PROPOSED FOR INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

<b>9. The adoptability of a child (Art. 4 a))</b>	
Does your State have its own criteria concerning the adoptability of a child ( <i>e.g.</i> , maximum age) which must be applied <i>in addition to</i> the requirements of the State of origin?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: In addition to the Hague requirements, the Ministry of Social Services only allows one child to be adopted at a time, unless siblings are being adopted together. Siblings must have at least one birth parent in common.</p>

<sup>10</sup> For an explanation of the terminology used concerning the staff of the national accredited body working in the State of origin, see the GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapters 6.3 and 6.4.

<sup>11</sup> See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 13.

<sup>12</sup> See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 13.2.2.5.

	<input type="checkbox"/> No, there are no additional criteria concerning adoptability – the requirements of the State of origin are determinative.
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### 10. The best interests of the child and subsidiarity (Art. 4 b))

Does your State request information / evidence from the State of origin to satisfy itself that the State of origin has respected the principle of subsidiarity ( <i>i.e.</i> , proof that family reunification was attempted, or that the possibility of in-country permanent family placements has been explored)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: The originating country must specify what attempts have been made to place the child locally with family or others and why it would be in the child's best interest to be placed out of country.  <input type="checkbox"/> No
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### 11. Children with special needs

Does your State have its own definition of the term "special needs children" which is applied in intercountry adoption cases?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please provide the definition used in your State: Special needs is a term used to describe children who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) have a diagnosed physical, mental or emotional disturbance or disability; or</li> <li>b) have a recognized high risk of physical, mental or emotional disturbance or disability.</li> </ul> <p>The content in "b)" generally refers to children who come into the care of the Minister because of abuse or neglect. They, as well as children who are voluntarily committed to the Ministry, are considered to be at a higher risk by virtue of being removed from the family of origin and the experience of disruption in attachment and bonding. This could result in a higher risk of special needs. In addition, there is also the potential of undeclared information, such as exposure or substance use during pregnancy.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No – the definition used in the State(s) of origin is determinative.
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### 12. The nationality of children who are adopted intercountry<sup>13</sup>

Do children who are adopted intercountry to your State acquire the nationality of your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always. Please specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) At what stage nationality is acquired by the child:                   ; and</li> <li>(ii) The procedure which must be undertaken (or whether acquisition of nationality is <i>automatic</i> upon the occurrence of a particular event, <i>e.g.</i>, the making of the final adoption decision):</li> </ul> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It depends – please specify which factors are taken into consideration ( <i>e.g.</i> , the nationality of the prospective adoptive
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<sup>13</sup> Regarding nationality, see further the *Guide to Good Practice No 1 on the implementation and operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention* (hereinafter, "GGP No 1"), available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](http://www.hcch.net) of the Hague Conference website < [www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net) >, at Chapter 8.4.5.



	<p>parents ("PAPs"), whether the child loses his / her nationality of the State of origin): See Canada's main Country Profile</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, the child will never acquire this nationality.</p>
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## PART V: PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS ("PAPs")

13. Limits on the acceptance of files	
a) Does your State place any limit on the total number of applications for intercountry adoption which are accepted at any one time?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the limit applied and the basis on which it is determined: An applicant can apply to one country at a time. <input type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State allow PAPs to apply to adopt from more than one State of origin at the same time?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify whether any limits are applied: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – PAPs may only apply to adopt from one State of origin at any one time.

14. Determination of the eligibility and suitability of PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption <sup>14</sup> (Art. 5 a))	
14.1 Eligibility criteria	
<p>a) Do PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption have to fulfil any criteria in your State concerning their relationship status(es)?</p> <p><i>Please tick any / all boxes which apply and indicate in the space provided whether any further conditions are imposed (e.g., duration of marriage / partnership / relationship, cohabitation).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the following person(s) may apply in our State for an intercountry adoption:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Married, heterosexual couples:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Married, same-sex couples:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual couples in a legally registered partnership:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex couples in a legally registered partnership:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual couples that have not legally formalised their relationship:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex couples that have not legally formalised their relationship:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Single men:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Single women:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, there are no relationship status criteria for PAPs.</p>
<p>b) Are there any age requirements in your State for PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements: 18</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the PAPs and the child:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>

<sup>14</sup> I.e., this section refers to the eligibility criteria applied, and suitability assessment undertaken, in relation to PAPs who are habitually resident in your State and who wish to adopt a child who is habitually resident in another Contracting State to the 1993 Convention: see further Art. 2 of the 1993 Convention.

	<input type="checkbox"/> No
c) Are there any <i>other</i> eligibility criteria which your State requires PAPs to fulfil?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional / differing criteria must be met for PAPs wishing to adopt a child with special needs (please specify):  <input type="checkbox"/> Couples must supply evidence of infertility: <input type="checkbox"/> For persons with children already (biological or adopted), there are additional criteria (please specify):  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Cannot have caused a child to be in need of protection or have committed a crime against a child.  <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>14.2 Suitability assessment<sup>15</sup></b>	
a) Which body(ies) / expert(s) perform the assessment of whether the PAPs are suitable persons to undertake an intercountry adoption?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority, the Ministry-certified independent practitioner who is registered and in good standing with their professional association and any other approved professional deemed necessary can assess the PAPs' suitability.
b) Please briefly describe the procedure which is used to assess the PAPs and determine their suitability to undertake an intercountry adoption.	The Saskatchewan Central Authority uses tools such as the PAPs' interview, Criminal Record Checks, Child Abuse Record Check, medicals, references and MFA completed by an independent practitioner to determine suitability. The process begins with the submission of the intercountry application form which demonstrates the PAPs' understanding of intercountry adoption and the needs of children adopted through this program. The application is followed by an in-person interview which is completed by the Saskatchewan Central Authority. The PAPs' adoption plan is discussed and approved. The PAPs choose an agency with whom they wish to work. The Central Authority then refers the PAPs to the independent practitioner for completion of 27 hours of online training and the MFA which includes a minimum of 4-6 visits (2 of which are in the home of the PAPs). Upon submission, the MFA is reviewed by the Saskatchewan Central Authority and approved, or concerns are addressed. The MFA examines such things as the PAPs' relationship with one another, family of origin, financial situation, access to resources, criminal history, child abuse history, preparation for adoption, experience with children and motivation for adoption. The dossier

<sup>15</sup> This suitability assessment will usually form one part of the report on the PAPs (Art. 15): as to which, see GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 7.4.3 and Question 17 below.

	package is prepared and sent to the agency the PAPs have chosen.
<b>14.3 Final approval</b>	
Which body / person gives the final approval that the PAPs are eligible and suited to undertake an intercountry adoption?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority provides the final approval.

<b>15. Preparation and counselling of PAPs (Art. 5 b))</b>	
<p>a) In your State, are courses provided to prepare PAPs for intercountry adoption?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whether the courses are mandatory: Yes. PAPs must take Parent Resources for Information, Development and Education (PRIDE) online training.</li> <li>- At what stage of the adoption procedure they are offered: At the very beginning of the process, after their adoption plan has been approved. This training is a requirement for the completion of the MFA (former homestudy).</li> <li>- Who provides the courses: Online course provided by the Ministry of Social Services.</li> <li>- Whether they are provided to PAPs individually or collectively (<i>i.e.</i>, in a group): Individually.</li> <li>- Whether they are provided "in person" or electronically: Electronically</li> <li>- How many hours the courses last: 27</li> <li>- The content of the courses: 5 competencies: 1) protecting and nurturing children, 2) meeting children's developmental needs and addressing developmental delays, 3) supporting relationships between children and families, 4) connecting children to safe, nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime, and 5) working as members of a professional team.</li> <li>- Whether there are specific courses for PAPs wishing to adopt a child with special needs: No</li> <li>- Whether the courses are (or can be) targeted at preparing PAPs for the adoption of a child from specific States of origin: No</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>b) Aside from any courses provided, what, if any, (other) counselling or preparation is provided to individual PAPs (<i>e.g.</i>, meeting with adoptive parents, language and culture courses)?</p> <p>Please specify, in each case:</p> <p>(i) If it is mandatory for PAPs to use the service;</p>	<p>The Ministry of Social Services funds the Adoption Support Center of Saskatchewan, which offers adoption information and counseling. Information is also provided by the Saskatchewan Central Authority. PAPs are also encouraged to research the country from which they wish to adopt and obtain information about the children from that country and potential issues these children may have, in addition to issues</p>

<p>(ii) Who provides the service; and (iii) At what stage in the adoption procedure the service is provided.</p>	<p>such as bonding, attachment disorders, cultural differences, etc. It is mandatory to speak with the Saskatchewan Central Authority and to demonstrate knowledge of children from the sending State and potential adoption issues. The Ministry of Social Services also provides the Intercountry Adoption Program Guide to PAPs. This guide provides information about the Intercountry Adoption Program. This guide is included with the intercountry adoption registration form.</p>
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## PART VI: THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION PROCEDURE

<b>16. Applications</b>	
<p>a) To which authority / body should PAPs apply for an intercountry adoption?</p>	<p>PAPs apply to the Saskatchewan Central Authority, at the Ministry of Social Services.</p>

<p>b) Please indicate which documents your State requires to be included within the PAPs' file for transmission to the State of origin:<sup>16</sup></p> <p><i>Please tick all which apply.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An application form for adoption completed by the PAPs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement of "approval to adopt" issued by a competent authority</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A report on the PAPs including the "home study" and other personal assessments (see Art. 15)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of the PAPs' passports or other personal identification documents</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of the PAPs' birth certificates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the birth certificates of any children living with the PAPs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of marriage, divorce or death certificates, as applicable (please specify in which circumstances):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information concerning the health of the PAPs (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evidence of the financial circumstances of the family (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information concerning the employment status of the PAPs (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proof of no criminal record</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other(s): please explain Home Safety Checklist</p>
<p>c) Is it compulsory in your State for an accredited body to be involved in an intercountry adoption procedure?<sup>17</sup></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify at which stage(s) of the procedure an accredited body must be involved (e.g., for the preparation of the home study, for the submission of the adoption file to the State of origin, for all stages of the procedure): The adoption must proceed through an agency accredited in a Canadian jurisdiction or the Saskatchewan Central Authority if required by the country of origin.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify who assists PAPs if no accredited body is involved in the adoption procedure:</p>
<p>d) Are any <i>additional</i> documents required if PAPs apply through an accredited body?</p> <p><i>Please tick all which apply.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney issued by the PAPs to the accredited body (i.e., a written document provided by the PAPs to the accredited body in which the PAPs formally appoint the accredited body to act on their behalf in relation to the intercountry adoption):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A contract signed by the accredited body and the PAPs:</p>

<sup>16</sup> Please remember that a specific State of origin may have other / additional requirements concerning the documentation that must be submitted to it. A list of documents required by the specific State of origin can be found in the State of origin's Country Profile.

<sup>17</sup> See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, paras 4.2.6 and 8.6.6: "independent" and "private" adoptions are not consistent with the system of safeguards established under the 1993 Convention.

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A document issued by a competent authority of the receiving State certifying that the accredited body may undertake intercountry adoptions:  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):  <input type="checkbox"/> No
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### 17. The report on the PAPs (Arts 5 a) and 15(1))

a) Which body(ies) / expert(s) prepare the report on the PAPs? Please include all those involved with the preparation of any of the documents which are included within such a report.	The MFA is completed by a Ministry of Social Services-certified independent practitioner. Documents such as the Criminal Record Check are obtained from the appropriate policing source, for example. The Saskatchewan Central Authority assists with the preparation of the dossier.
b) Is a "standard form" used for the report on the PAPs in your State?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please provide a link to the form or attach a copy: The independent practitioners now complete the MFA, which is a prescribed format licensed by Governor State University.  <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please indicate whether your State has any requirements concerning the information which must be included in the report on the PAPs and / or the documentation which must be attached to it:
c) For how long is the report on the PAPs valid in your State?	The requirement for MFA updates is every 2 years. This is an adoption program policy.
d) Who is responsible in your State for renewing the report on the PAPs if the period of validity expires before the intercountry adoption is completed and what is the procedure for renewal?	The independent practitioner completes the update to the MFA. The Saskatchewan Central Authority reviews the update and submits it to the sending State's Central Authority or agency.

### 18. Transmission of the PAPs' file to the State of origin

a) Who sends the finalised application file of the PAPs to the State of origin?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority
b) If no accredited body is involved with the intercountry adoption application (see Question 16 c) above), who assists the PAPs with compiling and transmitting their application file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable – an accredited body will always be involved (see response to Question 16 c) above).

### 19. Receipt of the report on the child (Art. 16(2)) and acceptance of the match (Art. 17 a) and b))

#### 19.1 Receipt of the report on the child (Art. 16(2))

Which authority / body in your State receives the report on the child from the State of origin?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority
<b>19.2 Acceptance of the match</b>	
a) Does your State require that the matching be accepted by a competent authority in your State?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please provide the following details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which authority determines whether to accept the match (e.g., the Central Authority or another competent authority): The Saskatchewan Central Authority accepts the match. and</li> <li>- The procedure which is followed (e.g., the report on the child is transmitted <u>first</u> to the competent authority to determine whether the match is accepted and only if this authority accepts the match is the report sent to the PAPs): If the proposal matches the PAPs' range of acceptance and there are no identified concerns regarding the child's eligibility for adoption, the proposal is presented to the PAPs.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Go to Question 19.2 b)</u></b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain the procedure which is followed once the authority / body referred to in Question 19.1 has received the report on the child from the State of origin: <p><b><u>Go to Question 19.2 c)</u></b></p>
b) Which criteria must be fulfilled for the relevant authority in your State to accept the match?	The criteria that must be met are that the child is legally free for adoption, the Hague conditions are met, appropriate consents are obtained from the birth parents and all other options within the sending State have been exhausted. The child's needs must match the PAPs' range of acceptance. If it does not match, the Saskatchewan Central Authority would discuss the matter with the PAPs' agency. The proposal may still be presented to the PAPs, depending on the disparity between the needs of the child and the range of acceptance of the PAPs. Careful consideration and discussion would take place prior to the final decision if there are any questions or concerns. Finally, the child's originating country must be in agreement with the adoption.
c) Does your State impose any requirements on PAPs concerning the length of time they are given to decide whether to accept a match?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in addition to any requirements of the State of origin, our State has a time-limit – please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the requirements of the State of origin are determinative in this regard.
d) Do PAPs receive any kind of assistance from your State when deciding whether to accept a match?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify what type of assistance is provided (e.g., counselling): If the PAPs have any questions, the Saskatchewan Central Authority will contact the Federal Central Authority or other bodies (medical professionals) to obtain answers to assist with the PAPs' decision making.

	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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## 20. Agreement under Article 17 c)

a) Which competent authority / body agrees that the adoption may proceed in accordance with Article 17 c)?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority
b) At what point in the adoption procedure is the Article 17 c) agreement given in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Our State waits for the State of origin to provide its agreement first <b>OR</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Our State sends its agreement to the State of origin with a notice that the match has been accepted <b>OR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):

## 21. Travel of the PAPs to the State of origin<sup>18</sup>

a) Does your State impose any travel requirements / restrictions on PAPs in addition to those imposed by the State of origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the additional requirements / restrictions: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State permit an escort to be used to bring the child to the adoptive parents in your State in any circumstances?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify in which circumstances: If the sending State requests this, it would be approved. Generally, the sending State requires the PAPs to be present. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

<sup>18</sup> See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 7.4.10.



<b>22. Authorisation for the child to enter and reside permanently (Arts 5 c) and 18)</b>	
a) Please specify the procedure to obtain authorisation for the child to enter and reside permanently in your State.	An adopted child who has been granted citizenship through a direct grant (see response to question 12 of Canada's main Country Profile) may enter and reside permanently in Canada. Otherwise, an adopted child may be authorized to enter and reside permanently if they are granted permanent residency under the federal Immigration and Protection of Refugees Act and the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations. See response to question 22 in Canada's main Country Profile.
b) Which documents are necessary for a child to be able to enter and reside permanently in your State (e.g., passport, visa)?	See Canada's main country profile.
c) Which of the documents listed in response to Question 0 b) above must be issued by your State? Please indicate which public / competent authority is responsible for issuing each document.	See Canada's main country profile.
d) Once the child has arrived in your State, what is the procedure, if any, to notify the Central Authority or accredited body of his / her arrival?	The PAPs are responsible for informing the Saskatchewan Central Authority of the child's arrival. The PAPs are also responsible for submitting post placement reports, confirmation of the child's citizenship and Order of Adoption.

<b>23. Final adoption decision and the Article 23 certificate</b>	
<p>a) If the final adoption decision is made in your State, which competent authority:</p> <p>(i) Makes the final adoption decision; and</p> <p>(ii) Issues the certificate under Article 23?</p> <p><b>N.B.</b> According to Art. 23(2), the authority responsible for issuing the Art. 23 certificate should be formally designated at the time of ratification of / accession to the 1993 Convention. The designation (or any modification to a designation) should be notified to the depositary of the Convention. The answer to (ii) above should therefore be available on the <a href="#">Status Table</a> for the 1993 Convention (under "Authorities"), available on the <a href="#">Intercountry Adoption Section</a> of the Hague Conference website.</p>	<p>(i) The final adoption decision is made by the Saskatchewan court.</p> <p>(ii) The Saskatchewan court.</p>
<p>b) Does your State use the "Recommended model form – Certificate of conformity of intercountry adoption"?</p> <p>See GGP No 1 – Annex 7.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<p>c) Please briefly describe the procedure for issuing the Article 23 certificate.</p> <p><i>E.g.,</i> how long does it take to issue the certificate? Is a copy of the certificate always given to the PAPs? Is a copy sent to the Central Authority in the State of origin?</p>	<p>For adoption completed in the province, Saskatchewan would issue the Certificate of conformity and provide a copy to the state of origin. The PAPs would also receive this certificate.</p>
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d) In cases in which the Article 23 certificate is issued in the State of origin, which authority or body in your State should receive a copy of this certificate?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority
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## PART VII: INTRA-FAMILY INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTIONS

24. Procedure for the intercountry adoption of a child who is a relative of the PAPs ("intra-family intercountry adoption")	
a) Please explain the circumstances in which an intercountry adoption will be classified as an "intra-family intercountry adoption" in your State. Please include an explanation of the degree of relationship which a child must have with PAPs to be considered a "relative" of those PAPs.	A relative child is any child related by some degree of consanguinity and may include nephews, nieces, cousins, etc. The type of relationship must be approved or shown by the originating country/family.
b) Does your State apply the procedures of the 1993 Convention to intra-family intercountry adoptions?  <i><b>N.B.</b> If the child and PAPs are habitually resident in different Contracting States to the 1993 Convention, <b>the Convention is applicable</b>, irrespective of the fact that the child and PAPs are related: see further GGP No 1 at para. 8.6.4.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – <b>go to Question 25</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in general, although there are some differences in the procedures for intra-family intercountry adoptions – please specify: <b>Go to Question 25</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No – <b>go to Question 24 c)</b>
c) If your State does not apply the Convention procedures to intra-family intercountry adoptions, please explain the laws / rules / procedures which are used in relation to:  (i) The counselling and preparations which PAPs must undergo in your State; (ii) The preparation of the child for the adoption; (iii) The report on the PAPs; and (iv) The report on the child.	(i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

## PART VIII: SIMPLE AND FULL ADOPTION<sup>19</sup>

25. Simple and full adoption	
a) Is "full" adoption permitted in your State?  <i>See GGP No 1 at Chapter 8.8.8 and note 19 below.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In certain circumstances only – please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):

<sup>19</sup> According to the 1993 Convention, a **simple** adoption is one in which the legal parent-child relationship which existed before the adoption is not terminated but a new legal parent-child relationship between the child and his / her adoptive parents is established. A **full** adoption is one in which the pre-existing legal parent-child relationship is terminated. See further Arts 26 and 27 and GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.8.8.

<p>b) Is "simple" adoption permitted in your State?</p> <p><i>See GGP No 1 at Chapter 8.8.8 and note 19 below.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In certain circumstances only (e.g., for intra-family adoptions only) – please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):</p>
<p>c) Does the law in your State permit "simple" adoptions to be converted into "full" adoptions in accordance with Article 27 of the 1993 Convention?</p> <p><i>See Art. 27(1) a).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please provide details of how this is undertaken and please specify whether this is done on a regular basis when a State of origin grants a "simple" adoption or only in specific cases:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – <b>go to Question 26</b></p>
<p>d) If conversion of a "simple" adoption into a "full" adoption is sought in your State following an intercountry adoption, how does your State ensure that the consents referred to in Article 4 c) and d) of the 1993 Convention have been given in the State of origin to a "full" adoption (as required by Art. 27(1) b))?</p> <p><i>See Art. 27(1) b) and Art. 4 c) and d).</i></p>	
<p>e) Following a conversion in your State, please explain which authority is responsible for issuing the Article 23 certificate in relation to the conversion decision. Please also explain the procedure which is followed.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The competent authority and the procedure is the same as stated in response to Question 23 above.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>

## PART IX: POST-ADOPTION MATTERS

<b>26. Preservation of, and access to, information concerning the child's origins (Art. 30) and the adoption of the child</b>	
<p>a) Which authority in your State is responsible for preserving information concerning the child's origins, as required by Article 30?</p>	<p>The Saskatchewan Central Authority</p>
<p>b) For how long is the information concerning the child's origins preserved?</p>	<p>The child's information is preserved permanently and indefinitely.</p>
<p>c) Does your State permit the following persons to have access to information concerning the child's origins and / or information concerning the adoption of the child:</p> <p>(i) the adoptee and / or his / her representative(s);</p> <p>(ii) the adoptive parent(s);</p> <p>(iii) the birth family; and / or</p> <p>(iv) any other person(s)?</p> <p>If so, are there any criteria which must be met for access to be granted (e.g., age of the adopted child, consent of the birth family to the release of information</p>	<p>(i) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: if the intercountry adoption was finalised in Saskatchewan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(ii) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: if the intercountry adoption was finalised in Saskatchewan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(iii) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: if the intercountry adoption was finalised in Saskatchewan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

concerning the child's origins, consent of the adoptive parents to the release of information concerning the adoption)?  <i>See Art. 9 a) and c) and Art. 30.</i>	(iv) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria:  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
d) Where access to such information is provided, is any counselling or other guidance / support given in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: Although access is not granted to the child's records for intercountry adoption finalised outside Saskatchewan, parties to these adoptions can request support services through the Adoption Support Centre of Saskatchewan. In addition, the Ministry of Social Services provides post adoption services to parties of domestic adoptions, but would be willing to speak with intercountry adoption clients to provide emotional support.  <input type="checkbox"/> No
e) Once access to such information has been provided, is any <i>further</i> assistance offered to the adoptee and / or others (e.g., regarding making contact with his / her biological family, tracing extended family)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## 27. Post-adoption reports

a) Absent specific requirements of the State of origin in this regard, who is responsible in your State for <i>writing</i> post-adoption reports and <i>sending</i> such reports to the State of origin?	Independent practitioners complete the post-placement reports. The reports are reviewed and endorsed by the Saskatchewan Central Authority who then sends the reports to the agency or State of Origin.
b) Absent any specific requirements of the State of origin in this regard, is there a model form which is used by your State for post-adoption reports?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify whether use of the form is mandatory and indicate where it may be accessed (e.g., provide a link or attach a copy):  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – in which case, please specify the content expected by <i>your</i> State in a post-adoption report (e.g., medical information, information about the child's development, schooling): Post-placement reports completed by the independent practitioners follow the template provided by the respective agencies. If the agency does not have a set format, the independent practitioner completes the report based on experience with other agency formats.
c) How does your State ensure that the requirements of the State of origin in relation to post-adoption reporting are fulfilled?	The PAPs are responsible for fulfilling this requirement by ensuring they contact the independent practitioner to complete the post-placement reports. The independent practitioner submits the report to the Central Authority. In cases where the PAPs can submit the post-placement report independently, the PAPs would be responsible.

**28. Post-adoption services and support (Art. 9 c))**

Apart from the matters raised in Question 26 above, what, if any, post-adoption services and support is / are provided by your State to the child and / or PAPs following completion of an intercountry adoption (e.g., counselling, support to preserve cultural links)?

In particular, please state whether any specific post-adoption services or support are provided in your State in the case of special needs children.

As mentioned above, the Adoption Support Centre of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan's Post Adoption Registry are resources which can provide support services.

Adoptive parents are encouraged to preserve cultural links by teaching children about their culture, exposing the children to cultural activities available locally, preparing cultural foods, practicing cultural customs, etc.

There are no provisions for special needs apart from what is available to any child residing in Saskatchewan.

## PART X: THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION<sup>20</sup>

**Receiving States are also kindly requested to complete the "Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption", available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website.**

<b>29. The costs<sup>21</sup> of intercountry adoption</b>	
a) Are the costs of intercountry adoption regulated by law in your State?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify any relevant legislation / regulations / rules and indicate how they may be accessed (e.g., link to a website or attach a copy). Please also briefly explain the legal framework: The Adoption Regulations, 2003, have provisions for monitoring costs associated with intercountry adoption. Costs must be considered appropriate to the service provided. In policy, the Ministry is responsible for receiving information from foreign authorities, agencies or lawyers outlining any fees PAPs may incur outside of the province.  <input type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State monitor the payment of the costs of intercountry adoption?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please briefly describe how this monitoring is undertaken: The agencies or Central Authorities are required to submit the anticipated costs to the Saskatchewan Central Authority. The Central Authority gives the option to the PAPs whether they want to make the payment through the Saskatchewan Central Authority or independently. Saskatchewan, however, does not monitor payments.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
c) Are the costs of intercountry adoption which must be paid in your State paid through the accredited body involved in the particular intercountry adoption (if applicable – see Question 16 c) above) or directly by the PAPs themselves?  <i>See the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at para. 86.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Through the accredited body: all costs paid in the state of origin are paid by the PAPs through the accredited agencies; there are no additional costs to be paid directly by the PAPs in the state of origin;  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Directly by the PAPs: costs paid in Saskatchewan such as those required for the completion of the home study, obtaining medical documentation or criminal record checks, etc. are paid directly by the PAPs.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain): Costs may be paid by the PAPs to the Central Authority of Saskatchewan who will then make payment to the State of origin. This is only in situations where an accredited agency is not involved.
d) Are the costs of intercountry adoption which must be paid in your State paid in cash or only by bank transfer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Only by bank transfer: <input type="checkbox"/> In cash:

<sup>20</sup> See the tools developed by the "Experts' Group on the Financial Aspects of Intercountry Adoption", available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website: i.e., the *Terminology adopted by the Experts' Group on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* ("Terminology"), the *Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* ("Note"), the *Summary list of good practices on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* and the *Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption*.

<sup>21</sup> See the definition of "costs" provided in the harmonised Terminology, *ibid*.

<p><i>See the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at para. 85.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain): The Saskatchewan Central Authority would adhere to whatever the agency or foreign authority requests.</p>
<p>e) Which body / authority in your State receives the payments?</p>	<p>The Saskatchewan Central Authority receives the payment and forwards as applicable. PAPs would pay the independent practitioners directly.</p>
<p>f) Does your State provide PAPs (and other interested persons) with information about the costs of intercountry adoption (e.g., in a brochure or on a website)?</p> <p><b>N.B.</b> Please also ensure that your State has completed the "Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption" (see above).</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please indicate how this information may be accessed: The Saskatchewan Central Authority provides estimates of how much an intercountry adoption could cost. PAPs are advised the costs are based on the country and agency selected. There is policy in place to ensure PAPs receive information about applicable fees.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>



<b>30. Contributions, co-operation projects and donations<sup>22</sup></b>	
<p>a) Does your State permit contributions<sup>23</sup> to be paid (either through your State's Central Authority or a national accredited body) to a State of origin in order to engage in intercountry adoption with that State?</p> <p><i>For good practices relating to contributions, see the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at Chapter 6.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What type of contribution is permitted by your State: Saskatchewan works with States of origin that require the payment of a contribution in order to engage in intercountry adoptions. As a Receiving State, we notably require transparency - i.e. that the amount of the contribution is fixed and well-documented in the fees of the country of origin, and that this amount is identified separately from adoption costs.</li> <li>- Who is permitted to pay it (i.e., the Central Authority or a national accredited body): The accredited adoption body</li> <li>- How it is ensured that contributions do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry adoption process: Before an adoption agency is accredited, it must demonstrate that the contribution is required by the State of origin, and that the amount of the contribution is fixed and well-documented.</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>b) Does your State undertake (either through the Central Authority or national accredited bodies) co-operation projects in any States of origin?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What type of co-operation projects are permitted by your State:</li> <li>- Who undertakes such projects (i.e., the Central Authority and / or national accredited bodies):</li> <li>- Whether such projects are mandatory according to the law of your State:</li> <li>- Whether such projects are monitored by an authority / body in your State:</li> <li>- How it is ensured that co-operation projects do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry adoption process:</li> </ul> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<sup>22</sup> See the definitions of these terms provided in the harmonised Terminology. In addition, on contributions and donations, see Chapter 6 of the Note, *supra*, note 20.

<sup>23</sup> See further the harmonised Terminology, *supra*, note 20, which states that there are two types of contributions: (1) contributions demanded by the State of origin, which are mandatory and meant to improve either the adoption system or the child protection system. The amount is set by the State of origin. These contributions are managed by the authorities or others appropriately authorised in the State of origin which decide how the funds will be used; (2) contributions demanded by the accredited body from PAPs. These contributions may be for particular children's institutions (e.g., for maintenance costs for the child) or for the co-operation projects of the accredited body in the State of origin. The co-operation projects may be a condition of the authorisation of that body to work in the State of origin. The amount is set by the accredited body or its partners. The payment may not be a statutory obligation and accredited bodies may present the demand in terms of "highly recommended contribution", but in practice it is "mandatory" for the PAPs in the sense that their application will not proceed if the payment is not made.

<p>c) If permitted in the State of origin, does your State permit PAPs or accredited bodies to make donations to orphanages, institutions or birth families in the State of origin?</p> <p><b>N.B. This is <u>not</u> recommended as a good practice:</b> see further the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at Chapter 6 (in particular, Chapter 6.4).</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To whom donations may be made (e.g., to orphanages, other institutions and / or birth families): The PAPs can contribute to organizations of their choice.</li> <li>- What donations are intended to be used for: It must be a general donation for operational costs, etc. The donation cannot be associated with procurement of a child.</li> <li>- Who is permitted to pay donations (e.g., only accredited bodies or also PAPs): The PAPs are permitted to make the donation themselves.</li> <li>- At what stage of the intercountry adoption procedure donations are permitted to be paid: Donations can be made at any stage of the adoption process.</li> <li>- How it is ensured that donations do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry adoption procedure: PAPs are advised donations cannot be made in relation to the procurement of a child. The Saskatchewan Central Authority is not necessarily advised of donations that are made.</li> </ul> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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31. Improper financial or other gain (Arts 8 and 32)	
a) Which authority is responsible for preventing improper financial or other gain in your State as required by the Convention?	The Ministry of Social Services is responsible for preventing improper financial or other gains. There are regulations which apply to prevent this from occurring.
b) What measures have been taken in your State to prevent improper financial or other gain?	The Adoption Act, 1998, and the Adoption Regulations, 2003, have provisions for the prevention of solicitation within Saskatchewan. Agencies and facilitators must be licensed by the Ministry of Social Services in order to practice. The Ministry would also provide regulatory oversight to approved bodies.
c) Please explain the sanctions which may be applied if Articles 8 and / or 32 are breached.	The Adoption Act, 1998, states that anyone found guilty of an offence and liable can be fined not more than \$10 000, imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

## PART XI: ILLICIT PRACTICES<sup>24</sup>

<sup>24</sup> "Illicit practices" in this Country Profile refers to "situations where a child has been adopted without respect for the rights of the child or for the safeguards of the Hague Convention. Such situations may arise where an individual or body has, directly or indirectly, misrepresented information to the biological parents, falsified documents about the child's origins, engaged in the abduction, sale or trafficking of a child for the purpose of intercountry adoption, or otherwise used fraudulent methods to facilitate an adoption, regardless of the benefit obtained (financial gain or other)" (from p. 1 of the *Discussion Paper: Co-operation between Central Authorities*

### 32. Response to illicit practices in general

Please explain how your Central Authority and / or other competent authorities respond to intercountry adoption cases involving alleged or actual illicit practices. <sup>25</sup>	See Canada's main Country Profile.
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### 33. The abduction, sale of and traffic in children

<p>a) Please indicate which laws in your State seek to prevent the abduction, sale of and traffic in children in the context of your intercountry adoption programmes.</p> <p>Please also specify which bodies / persons the laws target (e.g., accredited bodies (national or foreign), PAPs, directors of children's institutions).</p>	<p>Section 34 of the Adoption Act, 1998 provides: Except where otherwise expressly permitted pursuant to this Act or the regulations, no person shall, without the written approval of the minister, engage in the business or practice of:</p> <p>(a) procuring or assisting in the procurement of children for the purpose of adoption; or</p> <p>(b) placing or arranging the placement of children for the purpose of adoption.</p> <p>Section 32 of the Adoption Act, 1998 provides:</p> <p>32 (1) No person shall publish or cause to be published in any form or by means an advertisement dealing with the adoption of a child.</p> <p>(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the publication of:</p> <p>(a) a notice pursuant to an order of the court;</p> <p>(b) an announcement of an adoption of a child; or</p> <p>(c) any advertising by the director for the purpose of locating prospective adoptive parents.</p> <p>See also Canada's main Country Profile.</p>
<p>b) Please explain how your State monitors respect for the above laws.</p>	<p>There are policy and practices in place to monitor and respect the laws.</p> <p>The Central Authority in Saskatchewan is responsible for ensuring that Convention standards are met. The CA works with accredited agencies or directly with Central Authorities. The CA will only consider adoptions with Hague countries or countries that follow Convention principles.</p> <p>See also Canada's main profile.</p>
<p>c) If these laws are breached, what sanctions may be applied? (e.g., imprisonment, fine, withdrawal of accreditation.)</p>	<p>If the laws are breached, there would be a suspension of activity. If the Ministry licensed an agency to operate, it would review the activity. Upon review, the license to practice could be revoked if the laws are breached.</p> <p>Section 35 of the Adoption Act, 1998 provides: 35(1) A Person who contravenes any provision of section 32, 33, or 34 is guilty of an offense and liable on summary</p>

to develop a common approach to preventing and addressing illicit practices in intercountry adoption cases, available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website < [www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net) >).

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

	<p>conviction to a fine of not more than \$10,000, imprisonment for not more than one year or both. (3) No prosecution shall be commenced for an offence mentioned in subsection (1) after the expiration of two years from the date of the alleged offence.</p> <p>See also Canada's main Country Profile.</p>
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### 34. Private and / or independent adoptions

Are private and / or independent adoptions permitted in your State?

**N.B.** "Independent" and "private" adoptions are not consistent with the system of safeguards established under the 1993 Convention: see further GGP No 1 at Chapters 4.2.6 and 8.6.6.

Please tick all which apply.

- ☐ Private adoptions are permitted – please explain how this term is defined in your State:
- ☐ Independent adoptions are permitted – please explain how this term is defined in your State:
- ☒ Neither private nor independent adoptions are permitted.

## PART XII: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

### 35. The scope of the 1993 Convention (Art. 2)

- a) If foreign national PAPs, habitually resident in your State, wish to adopt a child habitually resident in another Contracting State to the 1993 Convention, are they permitted to do so under the law of your State?

*Example: Indian PAPs are habitually resident in the USA and wish to adopt a child habitually resident in India.*

- ☒ Yes – please explain whether this would be treated as an *intercountry* or *domestic* adoption in your State<sup>26</sup> and please briefly explain the procedure which would be followed, as well as any specific criteria / conditions which would apply: The PAPs would need to have permanent residency status in Canada and be a habitual resident of Saskatchewan. This would be an intercountry adoption.
- ☐ No

- b) If foreign national PAPs, habitually resident in your State, wish to adopt a child also habitually resident in your State, are they permitted to do so under the law of your State?

*Example: Indian PAPs are habitually resident in the USA and wish to adopt a child also habitually resident in the USA.*

- ☒ Yes – please explain whether this would be treated as an *intercountry* or *domestic* adoption in your State<sup>27</sup> and please briefly explain the procedure which would be followed, as well as any specific criteria / conditions which would apply: The PAPs could complete a domestic adoption, but they are required to have citizenship or permanent resident status to do so.
- ☐ No

- c) If a State of origin treats an adoption by PAPs habitually resident in your State as a *domestic* adoption when, in fact, it should be processed as an intercountry adoption under the 1993 Convention, how does your State deal with this situation?

*Example: PAPs who are nationals of State X habitually reside in your State. They wish to adopt a child from State X. Due to their nationality, the PAPs are able to adopt a child in State X in a domestic adoption procedure (in breach of the 1993 Convention). They then seek to bring the child back to your State.*

The Saskatchewan Central Authority would cease involvement with the process. The Letter of Agreement/No Objection required under Canadian immigration or citizenship rules would not be issued. On a case by case basis, a review may be completed and an intercountry adoption application may be undertaken. The Saskatchewan Central Authority may be able to work with the foreign Central Authority to determine whether the child is eligible for intercountry adoption. In these situations, the adoption must still meet all Hague requirements, as well as Saskatchewan requirements.

<sup>26</sup> According to the 1993 Convention (see Art. 2), this is an *intercountry* adoption due to the differing habitual residences of the PAPs and the child. The Convention procedures, standards and safeguards should therefore be applied to such adoptions: see further, GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.4.

<sup>27</sup> According to the 1993 Convention (see Art. 2), this is a *domestic* adoption due to the fact that the habitual residence of the PAPs and the child is in the same Contracting State: see further, GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.4.

## PART XIII: SELECTION OF PARTNERS FOR INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION<sup>28</sup>

36. Selection of partners	
a) With which States of origin does your State currently partner on intercountry adoption?	The Saskatchewan Central Authority is presently partnering with the following States: Philippines, India, Ukraine, South Africa, British Guyana, U.S.A., Haiti, Romania, Lithuania and Bulgaria.
b) How does your State determine with which States of origin it will partner?  In particular, please specify whether your State only partners with other <i>Contracting States</i> to the 1993 Convention.  <i>To see which States are Contracting States to the 1993 Convention, please refer to the <a href="#">Status Table</a> for the 1993 Convention (accessible via the <a href="#">Intercountry Adoption Section</a> of the Hague Conference website &lt; <a href="http://www.hcch.net">www.hcch.net</a> &gt;).</i>	The State would need to be a Hague country or follow a Hague process and must have adoption laws. There would also need to be a Central Authority or agency with which the Saskatchewan Central Authority could work.
c) If your State also partners with <i>non-Contracting States</i> , please explain how it is ensured that the safeguards of the 1993 Convention are complied with in these cases. <sup>29</sup>	The State must follow a Hague process and must have adoption laws. <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable: our State only partners with other <i>Contracting States</i> to the 1993 Convention.
d) Are any formalities required in order to commence intercountry adoptions with a particular State of origin (e.g., the conclusion of a formal agreement <sup>30</sup> with that State of origin)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain the content of any agreements or other formalities: <sup>31</sup> It would need to be determined that the State follows a Hague process, the State has adoption laws and there is an agency or Central Authority the Saskatchewan Central Authority could work with. <input type="checkbox"/> No

<sup>28</sup> In relation to the choice of foreign States as partners in intercountry adoption arrangements, see further GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 3.5.

<sup>29</sup> See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 10.3 regarding the fact that “[i]t is generally accepted that States Party to the Convention should extend the application of its principles to non-Convention adoptions”.

<sup>30</sup> See note 3 above concerning Art. 39(2) and the requirement to transmit a copy of any such agreements to the depositary for the 1993 Convention.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*