

## **For Immediate Release: Strengthening Leadership to Address Rising Rates of Sexual Violence in Saskatchewan**

**May 1, 2026 (Regina, SK)** – Every May, Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan (SASS), its member agencies, community partners, and the Government of Saskatchewan recognize Sexual Violence Prevention Month (SVPM). This annual initiative brings together communities, businesses, government, and advocacy organizations in a shared commitment to prevent and address sexual violence across the province.

As Saskatchewan continues to face higher-than-national-average rates of sexual violence, the need for leadership across all sectors has never been more urgent. This year's theme, "One Act of Leadership," highlights the critical role that leaders play in shaping safe, respectful, and accountable environments.

SASS is focusing on equipping local role models, business leaders, and elected officials with the tools and knowledge needed to take meaningful action within their spheres of influence.

"When a boss, a coach, an MLA, or a community leader invests in preventing sexual violence, it strengthens the safety of their entire community," says Kerrie Isaac, Executive Director of SASS. "One of the most effective acts of prevention is collaboration with local experts."

Saskatchewan's frontline gender-based violence support centres, including SASS's network of 17 member agencies, provide specialized expertise, training, and resources. These organizations support leaders in implementing prevention strategies, fostering safer workplaces and communities, and connecting to inter-professional anti-violence networks.

"Protecting Saskatchewan means taking action to prevent sexual violence and ensuring survivors have access to meaningful supports," Justice Minister and Attorney General Tim McLeod, K.C. said. "Through continued investment and strong partnerships, we are working to keep communities safe and hold offenders accountable."

Throughout May, individuals and organizations are encouraged to act by engaging with local experts, participating in prevention initiatives, and accessing practical tools and resources.

To learn more and explore actionable prevention ideas, visit: [www.sassk.ca/svpm](http://www.sassk.ca/svpm)

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*Sexual Assault Services of Saskatchewan is a provincial non-profit organization that works collectively with front-line agencies, community partners, and governments that provide support and advocacy for those affected by sexual violence in Saskatchewan.*