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**Review of *Saskatchewan Politics: Into the Twenty-First Century*
Edited by Howard A. Leeson**

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Saskatchewan Politics: Into the Twenty-First Century. Edited by Howard A. Leeson. Regina: Canadian Plains Research Center, 2001. xii+428 pp. Tables, appendices, bibliography, index. \$29.95 paper.

Somewhat broader than its title suggests, the book focuses not merely on Saskatchewan politics, but also on the province's governing institutions,

public policies, and political, economic, and social development. Its first half is devoted to key political institutions, including the legislature, the monarchy, the cabinet, the public service, the judiciary, and parts of the party and electoral systems. The other half addresses an array of political, social, and economic developments that have occurred primarily during the past two decades involving economic and financial management, elections, politics and the media, federal-provincial relations, and the role of First Nations in the province's politics and elections.

Although one could quibble over what the volume's substantive focus includes and excludes, the various articles provide collectively a rather integrated and coherent montage offering the patient reader valuable information and perspectives on Saskatchewan's governmental system, politics, and public policies. The articles—written by an interesting mix of academics as well as notable former and current senior provincial politicians and administrators (including a provincial premier, a former leader of an opposition party, and the province's current lieutenant governor)—also provide useful references to guide readers and researchers to additional literature on the topics covered.

Though its stated purpose is to provide Saskatchewan university students with a reader on the province's politics and governance, the book is also likely to appeal to political aficionados who wonder how the polity, which some consider to be the cradle of social democracy or socialism in the Great Plains region of North America, has evolved over time.

One of the volume's central themes is continuity and change in the province's governance and political landscape. Given that theme, it would have been beneficial for readers to have been provided with more extensive prognostications and prescriptions regarding the most likely future trajectories for governance, politics, and policy in the province. Various authors touch on this, but generally it does not constitute a crucial component of their analyses.

The book contributes substantially to the study of Saskatchewan's rich and intriguing governance and political legacy. Although it helps fill a major void in the literature, much remains to be explored and explained, and one can only hope the volume will lead others to appreciate the importance of adding to this laudable effort by exploring and examining the fascinating political legacy of Saskatchewan's polity to date and its prospects for the future. **Joseph Garcea**, *Department of Political Studies, University of Saskatchewan*.