

**EVALUATING MUNICIPAL ANNEXATION:  
CASE STUDIES FROM SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA**

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Municipal annexation is a type of local government reform where a municipality expands its boundaries to acquire territory from a neighbouring municipality or unincorporated area; this is the most common form across Canada, including the province of Saskatchewan. Existing literature offers a variety of reasons municipal reform occurs, ranging from helping municipalities respond to the pressures of growth, to providing more efficient service delivery. Despite the prevalence of annexation, acts are not subject to any form of evaluation study. Largely using qualitative case studies from Saskatchewan, this research evaluates annexation as a policy tool by investigating why it occurs, its outcomes, and if it is effective at solving the problems it intends to. Annexation is found to be an effective option for reform necessitated by growth-related pressures. However, it is recommended that future research re-examines this through an objective evaluation model and that provincial governments consider implementing evaluation studies post-annexation to address two issues uncovered in the research, tax loss compensation calculation and loss of local knowledge.