# **Information Notice**

IN 2017-20 Issued: May 2015 Revised: November 2020

### NON-RESIDENT VENDORS - PROVINCIAL SALES TAX (PST) REGISTRATION

Changes to this Information Notice are indicated by a bar (|) in the left margin.

# **General Licensing Requirements for Non-Resident Vendors**

Businesses located outside Saskatchewan that make retail sales in the province, including the sale or lease of tangible personal property, taxable services, or contracts of insurance that are acquired for use or consumption in or relating to Saskatchewan, are required to become licensed to collect and remit the PST.

Retail sales in the province include retail sales by persons who do not otherwise carry on business in Saskatchewan and include situations where a person selling or providing tangible personal property to a consumer or user:

- (i) Makes tangible personal property available for purchase by persons in Saskatchewan;
- (ii) Accepts orders to purchase tangible personal property that originate in Saskatchewan; and,
- (iii) Causes the tangible personal property to be delivered in Saskatchewan.

Tangible personal property generally refers to goods and also includes data, information or material that is transferred, transmitted or distributed by means such as landlines, wires, fibre optic cables, satellites etc. Any property that can be seen, weighed or measured or that is in any way perceptible to the senses is considered to be tangible personal property.

For information regarding taxable and exempt services, please see Section I of Information Bulletin <a href="PST-46">PST-46</a>, Information for Service Enterprises which lists the taxable services and the corresponding Information Bulletin for further reference.

**Note:** Non-resident contractors carrying on business in Saskatchewan, providing either taxable or exempt services, are required to be registered with a PST number for the purpose of collecting PST on their sales and/or reporting PST payable on supplies, equipment, vehicles and tools used in Saskatchewan. They are also required to obtain a <u>Contractor Clearance Certificate</u>. For further information, please review Information Bulletin <u>PST-38, Information for Non-Resident Real Property and Service Contractors</u>.

In addition to meeting their registration requirement, non-resident vendors are providing a service to their customers in Saskatchewan by becoming licensed and remitting the tax on their behalf. When a non-resident vendor is not licensed to collect PST, or fails to collect the tax as required, their Saskatchewan customers must self-assess and remit the tax directly to the Ministry of Finance. Non-resident businesses that do not collect and remit the tax due on sales to Saskatchewan consumers could be assessed penalty and interest charges in an audit, in addition to the taxes that are due.

#### Electronic Distribution Platforms, Online Accommodation Platforms and Marketplace Facilitators

Operators of electronic distribution platforms and online accommodation platforms, as well as online marketplace facilitators must be licensed for purposes of collecting and remitting Saskatchewan PST.



# **Electronic Distribution Platforms**

- Electronic Distribution Platform means a website, internet portal, gateway, application or other means prescribed in the regulations that allow a consumer or user to purchase at a retail sale, whether singly, by subscription or in any other manner, including maintenance, updates and support, tangible personal property, services, or contracts of insurance that are delivered through an electronic format.
- Electronic distribution services that are delivered, streamed or accessed through an electronic distribution platform are subject to PST. This includes:
  - o The content delivered through the electronic distribution platform; and,
  - o Any associated or incidental services, including all transactions services, processing services and administration services (e.g. currency conversion fee, annual account maintenance fee etc.).

#### Online Accommodation Platforms

- Online Accommodation Platform means an electronic marketplace that enables or facilitates transactions in relation to accommodation services located in Saskatchewan.
- PST applies to accommodation services, and to any associated or incidental services, that are delivered
  or accessed through an online accommodation platform and includes all transaction services, processing
  services and administration services.

**Note:** Online platforms providing classified advertising or listing services that do not collect payment on behalf of the individual or business offering accommodation services through their platforms are not considered to be online accommodation platforms for PST purposes.

#### Marketplace Facilitators

- Marketplace Facilitator means a person, as defined in *The Provincial Sales Tax Regulations*:
  - o that makes or facilitates a marketplace for retail sales by marketplace sellers; and,
  - o that, directly or indirectly, collects payment from a consumer or user and remits payment to a marketplace seller; whether or not that person receives consideration in exchange for its services.
- A **Marketplace Seller** means a person that makes retail sales through any physical or electronic marketplace operated, owned or controlled by a marketplace facilitator.

An accommodation service provider or marketplace seller who makes retail sales <u>exclusively</u> by way of an online accommodation platform or a marketplace facilitator, is not required to be licensed as a vendor to collect and remit Saskatchewan PST, when the operator of the online accommodation platform or the marketplace facilitator is licensed and collecting the tax.

The accommodation platform operator or marketplace facilitator is responsible for the proper collection of PST, including determining the applicable rate and tax status of goods and services for sale, and is required to collect and remit PST on <u>all</u> taxable sales made through their platforms, regardless of whether the accommodation service provider or marketplace seller is licensed as a vendor.



The accommodation service provider or marketplace seller is responsible for collecting and remitting PST on sales through all other channels, including sales made through unregistered online accommodation platforms and unregistered marketplace facilitators.

To be relieved of liability regarding the collection of PST on sales conducted through a registered online accommodation platform or marketplace, accommodation service providers and marketplace sellers **must** ensure that:

- the online accommodation platform operator or marketplace facilitator holds a valid PST licence (the online registry/PST Lookup, can be accessed through <a href="mailto:sets.saskatchewan.ca">sets.saskatchewan.ca</a>); and,
- the online accommodation platform operator or marketplace facilitator is collecting Saskatchewan PST on sales of taxable goods or services made through their platform to consumers in Saskatchewan.

**Note:** In situations where an accommodation service provider or marketplace seller has consumption tax obligations in relation to Saskatchewan, the accommodation service providers or marketplace sellers are required to be registered to report and remit the applicable tax to the Ministry of Finance. For further information, please review sets.saskatchewan.ca/taxinfo.

For further information, please refer to Information Notice <u>IN 2020-08</u>, *Electronic Distribution Platforms, Online Accommodation Platforms and Marketplace Facilitators*.

The <u>Application for Vendor's Licence/Consumer Registration</u> is available on the Internet at www.sets.saskatchewan.ca.

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

Write: Ministry of Finance Telephone: Toll Free 1-800-667-6102

Revenue Division Regina 306-787-6645

PO Box 200

REGINA SK S4P 2Z6 <u>Email:</u> <u>sasktaxinfo@gov.sk.ca</u>

<u>Internet:</u> Tax bulletins, forms and information are available at <u>www.sets.saskatchewan.ca/taxinfo</u>.

To receive automatic email notifications when this or any other bulletin is revised, go to

www.sets.saskatchewan.ca/subscribe.

Government website: Saskatchewan.ca

