



Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association
#200-2222 13th Avenue
Regina, SK. S4P 3M7
(306) 525-3727

NEWS RELEASE

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A strong government to government relationship remains a top priority to SUMA's Board

A strong government to government relationship will remain priority number one for the Saskatchewan Urban Municipality Association's (SUMA) board of directors. The strength and potential of the municipal-provincial relationship was a recurring theme throughout SUMA's regular fall board meeting, held September 26 and 27, in Regina.

"So far, this government seems to get it. They are working with us to address the major issues facing Saskatchewan's municipalities. We have made great progress on a revenue sharing agreement and have begun talks about infrastructure," said SUMA Vice-President of Cities, Fred Clipsham. "All of our priorities are incumbent on our ability to work with other levels of government. Our issues and concerns may be shuffled to the background without a relationship built on trust, accountability and a mutual love for this province."

In the days prior to last weekend's board meeting, the SUMA directors held meetings with provincial Cabinet Ministers Cheveldayoff, Gantfoer, Hutchinson and Stewart. VP Clipsham said the meetings were a great way to establish strong, constructive relationships with key ministries and open the door for more joint work on municipal issues.

"Our partners in provincial government are working closely with us on a number of important fronts. Obviously the two major issues, revenue sharing and a made-in-Saskatchewan infrastructure agreement have been discussed, but the province has also prioritized other elements of the municipal sector - multi-material recycling, sustainable development, managing urban growth and exploring opportunities for economic development," said VP Clipsham. "We will continue to work hand-in-hand with the province and look forward to any and all good news they may have."

The Board meets again in December to finalize plans for SUMA's 104th Convention, CTV's Mike Duffy is scheduled to deliver a keynote address. The 2009 Convention will be held at TCU Place in Saskatoon. SUMA is looking forward to once again hosting Saskatchewan's largest convention.

To arrange an interview or for more information please contact:

Dan McGeady
Communications Officer
525-4396 (o) 535-0066 (c)
dmcgeady@suma.org