

# Answering Your Convention Questions

Will this be your first time attending a SUMA convention? Do you need a refresher on the ins and outs of attending? Read on, as we answer your questions about Convention 2019.

## What does my registration fee include?

Your convention registration fee includes:

- admission to all education and breakout sessions (your choice of sessions);
- a seat at the keynote speaker presentation;
- tradeshow viewing on Sunday and Monday;
- shuttle service to and from designated hotels;
- light continental breakfast and buffet lunch on Monday and Tuesday;
- refreshment breaks
- a chance to mingle with fellow delegates during Monday's Hospitality Night (cash bar);
- the chance to dialogue with provincial cabinet ministers; and
- the opportunity to network with other municipal leaders.

The Welcome Reception (Sunday night) and the President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony (Tuesday night) require separate tickets with their own fees.

## How do I use the shuttle service to TCU Place?

The short answer: Check the hotel lobby for approximate departure times and bus stop locations.

The long answer: Odyssey Coach Lines is providing shuttle service to and from select hotels. There will be continuous shuttle service for Sunday's education sessions and tradeshow. Service will also be available that evening for the Welcome Reception.

Monday through Wednesday, shuttles will run to TCU Place in the morning, and return to hotels in the afternoon. There will also be bussing for the President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday evening.

Please note that the shuttle will not run for the Hospitality Night on Monday evening, and service on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during the day is not continuous.

## Where do I register at TCU Place?

When you get to TCU Place, head to the main entrance - that's where the registration desk will be.

The registration desk will be open all four days:  
Sunday, February 3: 11:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m.  
Monday, February 4: 7:45 a.m.–4:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 5: 7:45 a.m.–4:45 p.m.  
Wednesday, February 6: 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

This is where you get your convention envelope (including your nametag, agenda card, voting information, and pre-purchased event tickets).

Your nametag is your admission ticket to the tradeshow, sessions, and luncheons, so it is a must-wear item during convention. At the end of convention, we will collect these holders to reuse and your nametag will enter you into a draw for a prize.

Each registered delegate will also receive a bag with a convention handbook that includes transportation information, facility floor plans, session details, resolutions, and day-by-day agendas. All of this information and more will also be available on SUMA's new convention app!

This year we are excited to introduce a new mobile app that contains everything you need to know about Convention 2019. This app offers many new convenient features including an option to create a personalized agenda. Watch for more information. The new SUMA Convention app will be coming to your device's app store soon.



## What should I wear?

*For daytime activities:* We recommend casual business attire.

*For the Welcome Reception:* Wear your team jersey to this casual event to celebrate the wins of your team and your hometown.

*For the President's Banquet and Award Ceremony:* Break out your business formal.

Please remember that you are representing your community. You will be networking with urban governments from across the province, and will be in the presence of many provincial and national dignitaries. Please avoid ball caps, sweatpants, ripped jeans, and other unprofessional attire.

Also, it's winter in Saskatchewan so bring suitable outerwear for the trek to and from the hotel! A self-serve coat check will be available.

## Tell me about the meals!

Monday's breakfast will be served in the tradeshow area and Tuesday's breakfast will be served in the Grand Salon. The continental breakfast will include muffins, fruit, and a yogurt parfait. A buffet lunch will be served in the Grand Salon on both Monday and Tuesday.

Refreshments will be available in the tradeshow area on Sunday afternoon and during both refreshment breaks on Monday. On Tuesday and Wednesday, refreshments will be offered in the Grand Salon.

Appetizers and a cash bar will be provided at the Welcome Reception on Sunday night, and plated dinner will be served at the President's Banquet on Tuesday night. Tickets must be purchased in advance for these two events.

## What is the SaskPower Sponsored session?

Join Convention sponsor SaskPower at 4:40 p.m. Sunday, February 3 as representatives share SaskPower's vision of a cleaner energy future that meets growing demands and customer expectations. After a short presentation, SaskPower officials will be available to answer questions and discuss issues of concern to municipal leaders.

## What are sector meetings?

Sector Meetings give delegates a chance to meet with colleagues from other municipalities in the same sector. This is a chance to discuss current issues affecting your sector. The Sector Meetings are on Monday, February 4 at 1:00 p.m. They are split into three groups:

- Cities
- Towns
- Villages, Resort Villages, and the North

## What are breakout sessions?

Breakout sessions are focused on a topic of particular interest to the following groups:

- Cities
- Towns and Villages (choice of two sessions)
- The North

Breakout sessions are on Tuesday, February 5 at 3:30 p.m.

## How do resolutions work?

The resolutions session is on Monday, February 4 at 3:15 p.m. Resolutions and the voting process will be summarized in your convention handbook and on our mobile app. (Handbooks will be provided onsite when you register at TCU Place).

Only those delegates with *blue* name badges (voting delegates) are able to vote on resolutions. As per SUMA bylaws, the number of voting delegates a municipality has been assigned is based on population.

Each resolution will be moved by the chair, and a member of the sponsoring council must second it (or it will fail). The seconder will be given three minutes to speak to the resolution. The chair will then ask for anyone who wishes to speak against the resolution. If there is no opposing view, then the question will be called. If someone wishes to speak against the resolution then normal debate occurs. Speakers are given two minutes. The seconder will then be allowed one minute to close debate.

Voting will be by a show of blue voting cards, unless 25 voting delegates request a vote by ballot. Any call for a ballot

vote must come prior to the call for votes in favour. In the case of a ballot vote, the ballots from delegates from the cities of Regina and Saskatoon will be counted as seven votes. Procedural challenges will be resolved through consultation with our parliamentary advisor(s).

## What about the AGM?

The Annual General Meeting is Tuesday, February 5 at 2:05 p.m. Any elected official from a SUMA member municipality can vote during the AGM.

## What happens at the Dialogue with Ministers and the Bear Pit?

Only delegates who have *blue* (voting delegate), *yellow* (delegate) or *orange* (municipal employee) badges are able to ask the ministers questions. You may ask only one question, and statements are prohibited. To allow as many questions as possible, you will be given 60 seconds to ask your question and you will be timed. Dialogue with the Ministers is taking place on Wednesday, February 6 at 9:00 a.m. and Bear Pit will follow at 10:45 a.m.

## What is the Municipal Marketplace Tradeshow?

The Municipal Marketplace Tradeshow is held in conjunction with the annual convention and is open only to convention delegates and municipal employees. There will be more than 220 exhibitors offering products and services that are relevant to municipal needs. Time is set aside for you to visit the exhibitors.

Please be respectful of the items that are given away at these booths. Only take your share, as the exhibitors only bring enough items for everyone that attends.

Remember to enter your name into the prize draws; SUMA delegates are lucky people, and you don't know what prizes you could take home! The ballot entry forms are contained within the handbook.

## Why are there security guards onsite?

Security at Convention is for your peace of mind, and to ensure that only registered delegates have access. Please be sure to wear your name tag all day long and bring your tickets to the evening events.

## What if I have more questions?

All SUMA staff members can be identified by the *red* name tags we'll be wearing. Please don't hesitate to come over to say hello, or let us know how we can help you. We love to hear from our members!

