

MUNICIPAL Update

February 12, 2024

EVENTS

February 21

MuniCast - S5:E6 Economic Reconciliation with Cadmus Delorme and Thomas Benjoe, OneHoop

February 22

Webinar - Inspiring Future Leaders: Municipal Administration Specialization at Saskatchewan Polytechnic

March 23

SUMA Governance Review Open Forum

April 14-17

2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow

See all [upcoming events](#).

New Episode of MuniCast Available Now!

In **Episode 5** we speak with **Sandra Bender** from the **National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR)** about the importance of understanding the truth in truth and reconciliation, how municipalities can continue to deepen their reconciliation practices and continue to address call to action #57.



The NCTR is a place of learning and dialogue where the truths of Residential School Survivors, families and communities are honoured and kept safe for future generations. The NCTR educates Canadians on the profound injustices inflicted on First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation by the forced removal of children to attend residential schools and the widespread abuse suffered in those schools.

[Listen to Episode 5](#)

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Webinar

SUMA

02.22.24
2:00-3:00 p.m.

Inspiring Future Leaders: Municipal Administration Specialization at Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Sponsored by



On **Thursday February 22** at **2:00 p.m.** join us for the webinar *Inspiring Future Leaders: Municipal Administration Specialization at Saskatchewan Polytechnic*.

Designed with the assistance of government relations, four municipal associations and their members, the business diploma with a specialty in municipal administration offered by Saskatchewan Polytechnic ensures graduates are **prepared for demanding and rewarding roles in municipal administration**.

To support this program SUMA established the Laurent Mougeot Memorial Scholarship to honour the memory and lifelong work of Laurent Mougeot, who spent much of his life furthering municipal interests. Learn **how the municipal administration specialty equips students with the specific knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for a successful career in municipal administration, and how the Laurent Mougeot Memorial Scholarship is funded and awarded**.

Sponsored by SUMAssure, this webinar is free to all SUMA members and non-members

[Register Now!](#)

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by:



Virtual Event

SUMA

03.26.24
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Governance Review Open Forum

On **Tuesday March 26** from **2:00 - 3:30 p.m.** join us for an open forum discussion on the upcoming changes to SUMA's governance structure.

We will discuss options for different board and committee structures, and how this restructuring will affect the responsibilities and duties of board and committee members. Bring your questions about the proposed changes and how things will work during the AGM at Convention 2024.

This session is open to SUMA members and associate members only.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

New Supportive Housing in Regina

SUMA is pleased with the Government of Saskatchewan's recent announcement of 20 supportive housing units in Regina, in partnership with **Nēwo-Yōtina Friendship Centre**. This comes after many calls from SUMA for just such a solution, as we know that the lack of such resources is only contributing to the homelessness crisis being experienced across the province.

We're happy to see the province acknowledging the need for supportive housing that provides on-site integrated support services to assist individuals with living independently, and according to their needs.

The funding provided by the provincial program focuses on the housing provider's ability to maintain stable housing while supporting mental, physical, spiritual, and emotional well-being. **The Ministry of Health is working to identify community partners to provide supporting programs and services, investing an additional \$665,000 in operating funding in 2023-24.**

We are hopeful that this is the first step of many and that supportive housing units will continue to be a priority across the province, as homelessness, mental health and addictions are experienced in urban municipalities of all sizes.

You can read the news release from the Saskatchewan Government [here](#).

Additional Advocacy Efforts

Over the past few weeks, SUMA has had many meetings furthering the interests of Saskatchewan's hometowns.

- SUMA staff met with the **federal housing advocate** to discuss affordable housing in Saskatchewan
- SUMA staff attended a consultation on **ground EMS services** in Saskatchewan
- SUMA's **City Mayor's Caucus** met to discuss issues relevant to their sector: mental health and addictions, public libraries, assessment, small modular reactors, and the Multi Material Recycling Program were among the topics covered.
- SUMA met with the **Minister of Social Services, Gene Makowsky and Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health Tim McLeod** to discuss issues around SIS and SAID, homelessness, and mental health and addictions, including harm reduction measures.

CONVENTION 2024



reFRESH • reNEW • reFOCUS

2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow April 14 -17 • Regina, SK

Convention Registration Early Bird Deadline - February 28, 2024

Convention Registration Now Open!

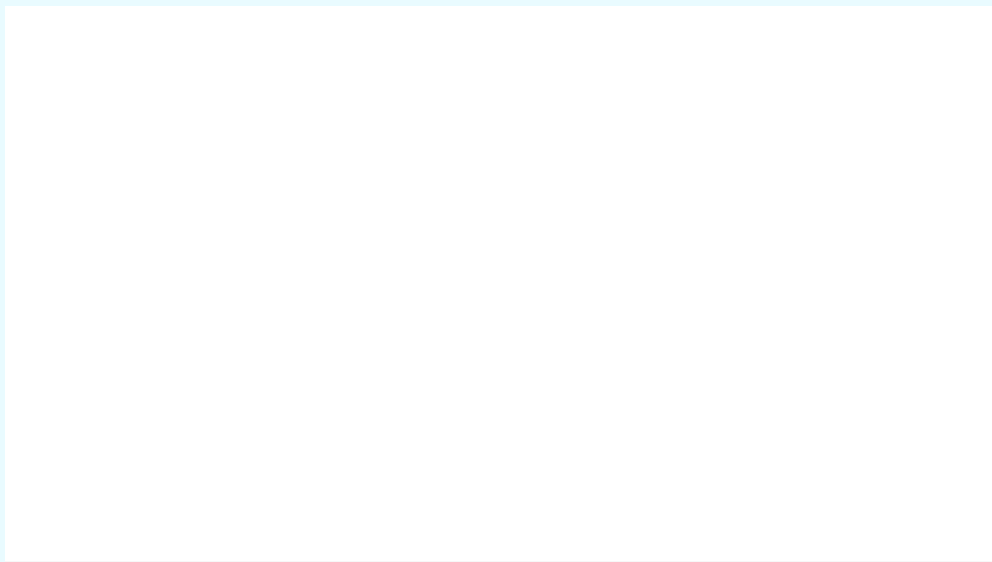
The registration and hotel booking systems for Convention 2024 are now open!

The main contact for each municipality should have received an email with the link and password to register. If your municipality did not receive your invitation to register, please check your junk mail. Not there? Email registration@suma.org.



Delegates are responsible for arranging their own hotel accommodations. To book your room(s) for Convention 2024, simply click [HERE](#) to access our hotel booking system.

Convention 2024 promises to be a busy four days, from excursions and education sessions, to the Bear Pit. See the [agenda](#) for a list of times and sessions. For more detailed information, check out the [2024 Convention Brochure](#). Click the image below for a message from the Convention MC.



Meet our Exhibitors

It wouldn't be SUMA's annual convention without the tradeshow featuring products and services that municipalities use each day. With more than 170 booths already sold, the **2024 Municipal Marketplace presented by Kinetic GPO** won't disappoint.

Click [HERE](#) to see the exhibitors attending.

Convention delegates will be able to browse tradeshow booths and connect with vendors on **Monday, April 15** from **7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**, and **Tuesday, April 16** from **7:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**



Did You Know?

Municipal employees can attend the tradeshow for free as tradeshow observers. Municipalities can register their tradeshow observers at the same time they register their other convention delegates!

Tradeshow Early Access Reception

Delegates will also be able to connect with exhibitors in advance of the tradeshow's official opening. On **Sunday, April 14**, from **4:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.**, SUMA is hosting an early access reception. Connect with exhibitors and browse booths while enjoying light appetizers and a cash bar. The Early Access Reception is open to all Convention delegates and tradeshow observers, no ticket required.

SPSA Requesting Municipal Feedback

The SPSA is proposing a **new policy and framework for recovering costs from local authorities**.

An outline of the incentivized cost-recovery information and model can be reviewed [here](#).

Over the last few years, the SPSA has sent some bills to municipalities under the Wildfire Act but has paused on many others as they reviewed inconsistencies within the various Acts under their purview. Should the SPSA go ahead with the attached framework, they will be **providing municipalities with a two-year grace period where no bills will be issued**. It is anticipated that municipalities will use this grace period to do the work to strengthen their resiliency in the face of emergency, and thereby meet the requirements to receive the incentives outlined in the attached, once regular billing resumes.

Please provide any comments and feedback to communications2@suma.org no later than February 22. This will give SUMA staff time to aggregate the information received and have a response formulated for the SPSA by the requested deadline.

This request for feedback is the **first step toward a more fulsome conversation about the cost recovery framework in Saskatchewan**. As a second step, the SPSA anticipates **follow-up conversations with those providing feedback to clarify and refine the identified problems and proposed solutions**.

As the SPSA continues to develop this framework and approach, your feedback and advice on the model and information is very important.

Apartment Construction Loan Program

Minister Fraser announced that the federal government will expand the [Apartment Construction Loan Program \(ACLP\)](#) and offer low-cost loans to build more student housing in the country.



The loans will have minimal impact on taxpayers and will allow more students to find homes they can afford close to where they go to school. This move will also help ensure that there are more homes available for families who live in those same communities throughout the year.

The application process is expected to open this Fall, and colleges, universities, and municipalities – along with private and non-profit developers – will be eligible to apply.

For more information, please visit this [link](#).

Federal Funding Programs for Freshwater Water Ecosystem Improvement Projects

Environment and Climate Change Canada recently announced funding programs that focus on keeping Canadian fresh water clean and healthy. The funds are part of the \$650 million invested in the Freshwater Action Plan in January, which you can read about [here](#).

For more information on the call for applications, including eligibility criteria and how to apply for funding, please go to the ECCC [Funding Programs webpage](#), where 26 different programs are listed. In particular, Climate Change Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans invite you to consider the [Lake Winnipeg Basin Funding Program](#) (application deadline February 15, 2024). The Lake Winnipeg Basin stretches across the Prairie and projects have been funded as far West as the East Slopes of the Rockies.

For more information on programs and funding visit this [page](#).

Municipalities and Energy for a Secure Future

Energy for a Secure Future (ESF) is an initiative that aims to spark a new, informed dialogue on Canada's energy system transformation, including consideration for the unique needs municipalities have. Future energy resources and needs are a broad discussion topic and that's why SUMA President Randy Goulden is part of the ESF's advisory council.



This week, **ESF shared an interview with ATCO CEO, Nancy Southern, who discusses energy that is affordable, reliable, and low emission.** ATCO is a supplier of both natural gas and electricity, including wind and solar assets. You can watch the interview [here](#).

Webinars: *Historic Places – Living Places*

Recently, the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport announced the 2024 edition of our Winter webinar series, *Historic Places – Living Places*.

Learn about the important contributions historic places are making in Saskatchewan communities. Some locations the webinars will be focusing on are the C.Mc Glascock Building in Maple Creek, the Buffalo Child Stone, the General Motors Building in Regina, and many more sites and locations.

The webinars will be presented from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. CST. You can find the exact dates and

details [here](#).



BLACK HISTORY MONTH
#BHM2024
MOIS DE L'HISTOIRE DES NOIRS
#MHN2024
Canada

Recognizing African-Canadian, Black History

In February we recognize and celebrate Black history across Canada. This year, the Saskatchewan Government proclaimed **Black History Month will now be African-Canadian/Black History Month**, a change that aligns with the 1978 UNESCO Declaration

of Race and Racial Prejudice and is inclusive of all people who are of African descent. You can also learn more about the UNESCO declaration [here](#).

Take a moment to learn more about the proclamation [here](#). For resources on African-Canadian and Black history, visit this [page](#). You can also learn more about the UNESCO declaration [here](#).

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You can access more information in the attached document [here](#), or by emailing kerriann@kineticgpo.ca.

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Town of St. Walburg: Chief Administrative Officer (Feb 13)
- Town of Grenfell: Grader Up for Tender (Feb 14)
- Northern Village of Air Ronge: CAO (Feb 16)
- RM of Langenburg No.181: Working Foreman (Feb 16)
- Town of Allan and RM of Lost River No.313: Administrator (Feb 17)
- Village of Pelly: Applications for a Foreman (Feb 23)
- Town of Whitecourt: Director of Infrastructure (Feb 23)
- Town of Kelvington: Public Works Laborer (Feb 24)
- Town of Lafleche: Administrative Assistant (Mar 2)
- Town of Delisle: Administrator (Mar 2)
- RM of Kindersley No. 290: Administrator (Mar 6)
- Town of Pilot Butte: Director of Parks, Culture, Recreation (Mar 9)

Have a position to fill or an item to sell? [Submit your ad](#) on our website.

Find the latest listings by visiting the [classifieds](#) section of our website, under the Programs and Services tab.



Grants

For a full listing of grants, check the [Grants](#) section of our website under the Resources tab.

