



# A MESSAGE FROM THE President

## Notes from the June Board Meeting

The Board of Directors met on June 16 in Regina to discuss matters important to Saskatchewan's hometowns. During the meeting, we discussed everything from mental health and addictions in our communities to healthcare and landfill decommissioning.

## Calling all Mayors SUMA MAYORS' SUMMIT

### Register for the SUMA Mayors' Summit!

Register now for the **SUMA Mayors' Summit** exclusively for **Saskatchewan mayors!**

Join us on **August 17** and **18** at the **Atlas° hotel**, or **virtually via Zoom**, for this unique opportunity to connect with other Saskatchewan Mayors.

During SUMA Mayors' Summit, attendees will participate in lectures, small group work, and large group discussions with their peers. Sessions are designed to help freshen up your leadership skills and give you the tools to support your municipality through transitions.

This two-day workshop includes:

- intriguing speakers
- small group work
- engaging discussions
- meals
- credit for the *Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities* module of the **Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP)**.

*If your municipality's Mayor is unable to attend, your Deputy Mayor is welcome to attend in their place.*

[Click here to register.](#)

SUMA Mayors' Summit is sponsored by [SaskWater](#)

## Convention 2024 and SUMA's Fresh New Focus

During the meeting, **the Board approved key details for the 2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow**, including the **Convention theme: REFRESH RENEW REFOCUS**. With SUMA's proposed changes in governance, we want to approach 2024 with a "fresh new focus," connecting with our members more than ever to increase engagement and provide education on who we are and who we represent.

**Convention 2024 will take place from April 14-17, 2024 in Regina**. Once again, we will be using the hotel reservation system, Resiada. For the first time, **Resiada will open at the same time as Convention registration in January 2024**. Rest assured we have secured enough rooms to house all our members, and rooms will be held by SUMA until the booking system opens. This way, members will know exactly how many rooms they need, and can avoid the hassle of cancelling rooms and making changes!

## Member Survey 2023

In February 2023, the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) contracted Insightrix Research Inc. (Insightrix) to conduct the **2023 Member Survey**, which is now complete. The survey will offer **members' thoughts and insights around the following topics: priorities and service delivery, Kinetic Group Purchasing, group benefits, communications, and events**. SUMA will soon share the survey results in greater detail with our members.

## Municipalities & Service Delivery Agreements

In 2022, SUMA engaged Praxis Consulting (Praxis) to **review the current state of intermunicipal service delivery agreements across Saskatchewan's urban municipalities**. SUMA's motivation behind this research was the desire to **develop a strategy for improving intermunicipal cooperation surrounding service delivery agreements and provide members with the tools and resources for successful implementation**. Praxis undertook this review, conducting interviews and background research between December 2022 and May 2023.

The primary source of information comes from ten structured interviews with senior executives, and elected officials of municipalities and First Nations in Saskatchewan. The research also includes interviews with senior executives from municipalities in Alberta and Manitoba.

The report will cover the following items: examples of successful service agreements; issues associated with intermunicipal service delivery agreements; best practices in Saskatchewan and elsewhere; and ways to advocate the provincial government for further clarity regarding municipal service delivery agreements and improving intermunicipal relations. Following Praxis's completion and presentation of the project, **on June 16 SUMA's Board of Directors approved the draft report**. Once the Community and Economic Development Committee has reviewed the report, **SUMA will share the findings with its members**.

## Video Advocacy





### SUMA City Mayors' Caucus Statement on the Saskatchewan Income Support Program (SIS) and Social Housing

In 2022 SUMA made the decision to start using videos as part of our advocacy and communications, and since then our efforts have been noted by the media. The **June 12 video statement on the SIS program and social housing**, featuring Vice-President Gerald Aalbers, gained much traction on Twitter, and has been featured in multiple media outlets.

Randy Goulden  
SUMA President