

MUNICIPAL Update

April 20, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 29

MuniCast S10:E03

May 14

Webinar: Navigating Conflict

June 2

Procurement Bootcamp for
Urban Municipal Administrators

June 9 - 25

Regional Roadshow

July 17

36th Annual SUMA Golf
Tournament - Hosted by the
Town of Midale

August 13-14

SUMA Council Summer School

See all [upcoming events](#).

Thank You for Joining Us at Convention 2026!

Thank you to our attendees, speakers, sponsors, and exhibitors for attending the **2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow** last week in Regina. This year's Convention saw 1000+ attendees and over 150 booths at the Tradeshow. Thanks for joining us for four days of advocacy, learning, and connection as we gathered together to strengthen our communities.

If you attended this year's Convention, please take a few minutes to complete the Convention survey. The survey can be found in the Convention app and a direct email with a link has also been sent out to everyone who attended. Your feedback helps us ensure future Conventions meet your needs and offer the best value to our members.

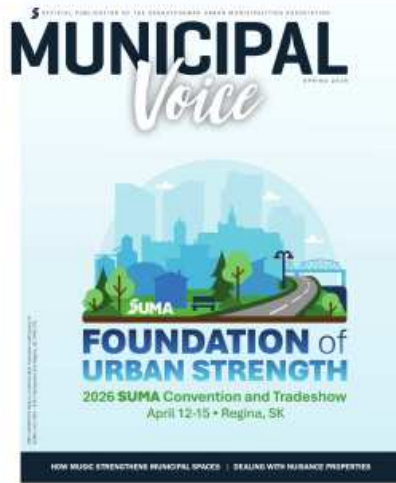


We're looking forward to welcoming you to Saskatoon for the **2027 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow** next April!

Municipal Voice: Spring 2026 Issue Now Available

The Spring 2026 issue of SUMA's magazine **Municipal Voice** is hot off the press! Print copies should be in our members' mailboxes, or you can read the [digital version](#).

This issue covers all things Convention and features articles on urban municipal budgeting practices, managing nuisance properties, music licensing for municipalities, and more! Plus, read an article by our partner the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) highlighting the link between urban and agricultural economies and why our advocacy is stronger together.



Share the News!

Is your entire council receiving *Municipal Update* emails? We encourage mayors, councillors, and administrators to **individually sign up to our newsletter** so our updates make it straight to your inbox. Please share this email with your colleagues and encourage them to sign up today!

[Sign Up for Email Updates from SUMA](#)

Reminder: Access to SUMA Member Portal

The **SUMA Member Portal** hosts valuable resources for members including meeting recordings, webinars, and more.

Each municipality has one shared login for the Member Portal that should be distributed to all staff and members of council. Please contact your Chief Administrative Officer for access. We encourage you to revisit or share previous webinars and other relevant information with other staff or elected officials.

If you are unsure of your login information, please contact communications2@suma.org for assistance.

[Visit the SUMA Member Portal](#)

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Resolutions at Convention

All 11 resolutions debated at Convention were passed by our membership. Resolutions involved advocacy calling for support on issues such as regional cost sharing, retention of certified water and wastewater operators, support in municipal transparency requirements, enhanced municipal revenue tools and fiscal fairness, access to emergency care and compensation for fire departments, funding for local housing authorities, northern bylaw enforcement, wildfire mitigation, reimbursement for fire department services on provincial highways, and research farm closures.

SUMA will communicate these resolutions to the Provincial and Federal Governments asking for a response.

See the [resolutions package](#) for details on this year's resolutions.

Call for Village and Resort Village Caucus Representative Nominations: West Central Region

The **Village and Resort Village caucus** is currently seeking nominations for one vacant position: a **West Central** representative.

Unsure which region you're located in? Search for your municipality [here](#).

The core mandate of the Village and Resort Village Caucus is to provide a forum for the management of advocacy topics considered relevant to Saskatchewan villages and resort villages.

The Caucus role includes the following responsibilities:

- Facilitating the meeting of the Caucus
- Identifying and providing advisory input on advocacy topics relevant to member urban municipalities in your sector
- Prioritizing advocacy topics and contributing to the setting of strategies required to advance the advocacy interests of the Caucus
- Providing input on provincial, federal, and/or collective advocacy topics
- Contributing to SUMA's communication efforts with the interest of keeping sector members informed and engaged

The Village and Resort Village Caucus meets virtually for approximately 90 minutes on a quarterly basis. Additional participation in events such as the Regional Roadshow and caucus meetings at Convention are also strongly encouraged.

Nominations can be submitted to suma@suma.org.

Please read the governing policy [here](#).

[Complete the Nomination Form](#)

CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES



MuniCast Season 10 Now Airing!

At the 2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow, MuniCast host Christopher Brown sat down with some of the people who help make Convention what it is. From SUMA partners, the provincial government, and session presenters, these conversations highlight the collaboration, insights, and

ideas that shaped Convention 2026. We're thrilled to share these behind-the-scenes discussions with you in **Season 10** of *MuniCast*.

Episode 3 drops on April 29—stay tuned!

MuniCast is available on all major podcast platforms, including [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), and [YouTube](#). Keep an eye on member emails or subscribe to MuniCast on your platform of choice to be notified when the latest episodes are released.



Webinar

SUMA

05.14.26
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Navigating Conflict



Sponsored by

SUMAssure

Webinar: Navigating Conflict

Conflict is inevitable—but it doesn't have to be unproductive.

On **Thursday, May 14** from **10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** join SUMA and People First HR for the practical and engaging webinar *Navigating Conflict*. Designed for municipal leaders, the webinar will explore what drives workplace conflict and how to address it early and effectively. Drawing on real municipal contexts, this session will help participants recognize common sources of conflict such as misunderstandings, unclear expectations, and competing demands and apply proven strategies to manage conflict constructively. Attendees will leave with tools to improve communication, clarify roles and expectations, build from a foundation of trust, and foster healthier working relationships within their organizations.

[Register Here](#)

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by SUMAssure. Webinars are free to all SUMA members. There is a fee of \$45 + GST and PST for non-members to attend.

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by

SUMAssure

SUMA

06.02.26
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators

Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators

On **Tuesday, June 2** from **8:30 a.m.** to **4:00 p.m.**, join us in **Saskatoon** at the **Remai Modern** for the **Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators**.

Start your time in Saskatoon ahead of the UMAAS Convention with a dynamic, full-day workshop designed to sharpen your procurement skills! Open to all administrators from urban municipalities, this session dives deep into the essentials—from proven best practices to critical requirements, policies, and cooperative buying groups. If procurement plays any role in your work, this workshop is not to be missed.

Whether you're brand new or a returning participant from previous Procurement Bootcamps, **we're offering a completely refreshed, brand new program** led by LouAnne Birkett, CSCMP, FSCMP. With 35+ years of public sector experience—including her tenure as Purchasing Manager for the Regional Municipality of Durham—LouAnne brings unmatched expertise in strategic procurement, leadership, and supply chain education. Awarded the prestigious National Fellowship designation by SCMA, she continues to shape procurement practices across Canada as a Senior Supply Chain Advisor – Contracts with Kinetic GPO.

This is the final year this program will be offered. If you've been thinking about joining, now is the time! Don't miss your chance to learn, connect, and strengthen your municipality's procurement practices. This event is exclusively for administration from SUMA member municipalities. **There is no cost to attend but space is limited to 60 participants.**

[Register Here](#)

REGIONAL ROADSHOW



Regional Roadshow: Registration now open!

SUMA is hitting the road this June to meet with members in their regions. Open to all SUMA members, the **SUMA Regional Roadshow** is your opportunity to connect with the other members in your region to network, hear updates from SUMA, and learn. Dates and locations for each Regional Meeting have now been decided. **Registration is now open!**

June 9 - West Central Region

Location: Town of Outlook

June 10 - Southwest Region

Location: Town of Assiniboia

June 15 - East Central Region

Location: City of Yorkton

June 16 - Southeast Region

June 22 - Northern Region

Location: Northern Village of Île-à-la-Crosse

June 23 - Northeast Region

Location: City of Prince Albert

June 24 - Northwest Region

Location: Town of Rosthern

June 25 - Central Region

[Learn more and register](#)

CONVENTION 2026



FOUNDATION of URBAN STRENGTH

2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow
April 12-15 • Regina, SK

Thank you to our members from across Saskatchewan who joined us last week in Regina to celebrate the strength of our urban municipalities. We're grateful to have brought together 1,000 delegates and 150+ Tradeshow booths for four days of advocacy, education, and networking.

Strengthening Communities with the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards

The **Saskatchewan Municipal Awards** celebrate the innovative practices of Saskatchewan's municipal governments. Five innovative projects from nine municipalities were recognized in the 19th Annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards. This year's winners showcased outstanding innovation, collaboration, and regional impact through projects designed to strengthen essential services and meet diverse community needs. The urban winners of the 19th Annual Saskatchewan Municipal Awards are:

Top Municipal Initiative: Co-op Centre: Meadow Lake Recreation Centre (City of Meadow Lake)

Top Urban Municipal Initiative: Youth Council (City of Melville, City of Weyburn)

Regional Cooperation: RM of Wheatlands No. 163 Satellite Fire Hall (Villages of Caronport and Mortlach)

More information about the winning projects is available at <https://www.municipalawards.ca/>

Congratulations to SUMA's Service Award Winners

Each year, through the municipal long service awards program, the SUMA Board of Directors recognizes individuals from across the province who have demonstrated a commitment to outstanding service in the municipal field. We celebrated our award winners at the President's Gala at Convention 2026.

The awards acknowledge the contribution of individuals in the municipal field to an improved quality of life in their communities and to the advancement of local government in our province.

Award nominations are accepted from communities and councils throughout the province. The individuals nominated are considered the most deserving of recognition for their outstanding service to their communities.

We are proud to honour these individuals for their outstanding contributions to the development and prosperity of our communities and urban governments in Saskatchewan.

Meritorious Service Awards are granted to **municipal employees** with **20 or more years of service**. This year's Meritorious Service Award winners are:

- **Jeff Allers** – Pilot Butte, 20 years of service
- **Trevor Bartel** – Preeceville, 25 years of service
- **Joe Bedecs** – Carlyle, 36 years of service
- **Annette Brown** – Carnduff, 33 years of service
- **Kerrie Chabot** – Maple Creek, 22 years of service
- **Mel Chorney** – Pilot Butte, 25 years of service
- **Kevin Dell** – Pilot Butte, 30 years of service
- **Terry Fuchs** – Pilot Butte, 20 years of service
- **Dalyce Hammer** – Maple Creek, 21 years of service
- **Ken Hewitt** – Carlyle, 27 years of service
- **Rob Klassen** – Carlyle, 25 years of service
- **Lyle Lucas** – Watrous, 40.5 years of service
- **Murray Macala** – Pilot Butte, 25 years of service
- **Stan Norrish** – Lipton, 20 years of service
- **Michelle Orsted** – Carlyle, 23 years of service
- **Orrin Redden** – Watrous, 26 years of service
- **Trevor Sali** – Pilot Butte, 20 years of service
- **Rob Schoonbaert** – Lipton, 20 years of service
- **Elaine Scott** – Melfort, 27 years of service
- **Lydell Shatula** – Nipawin, 20 years of service
- **Michele Sorensen** – Nipawin, 27 years of service
- **Lesley Thibault** – Tisdale, 27 years of service
- **Todd Thompson** – Carlyle, 20 years of service
- **Ron Tomolak** – Lipton, 20 years of service
- **Travis VanMeer** – Carlyle, 25 years of service
- **Lance Whitteron** – Lumsden, 24 years of service
- **Kim Wilkes** – Weyburn, 24 years of service

Honorary Service Awards are granted to **elected officials** throughout the province with **20 or more** years of service. *There were no Honorary Service Award recipients this year. We look forward to celebrating next year.*

Scoop Lewry Award

The **Scoop Lewry Award** recognizes outstanding service in municipal government or administration on a local, provincial, and national basis. This award is dedicated to the memory of L.H. "Scoop" Lewry, long-time Mayor of Moose Jaw and past SUMA President, who dedicated his career to improving his community with a kind and humanitarian spirit.

This year's recipient of the Scoop Lewry Award is Charlie Clark, who served as a Councillor with the City of Saskatoon for 10 years before serving as Mayor for eight years. Charlie also served as Vice Chair of the Western Economic Solutions Task Force with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

SUMA Life Membership Award

The **SUMA Life Membership Award** is granted by the Board of Directors to a municipal elected official who served on the SUMA Board of Directors. It recognizes an individual whose career exemplifies commitment and dedication to community, and significant contributions to urban government in Saskatchewan through SUMA.

This year's SUMA Life Membership Award recipient is Ted Zurakowski, who served six terms as a Councillor on Prince Albert City Council from 2006 to 2023. Ted was appointed to the SUMA Board of Directors in 2010 and served on the Board until his resignation in late January 2023.

OTHER UPDATES

SUMA Survey: Collaboration Between Municipalities and First Nations

SUMA and the Office of the Treaty Commissioner are working together to promote understanding of Treaty rights and Truth and Reconciliation among Saskatchewan's urban municipalities, and to facilitate relationship-building between First Nations and municipalities.

We have launched a survey that aims to build our understanding of SUMA members' needs related to collaboration with their First Nations neighbours. This will help us use our events and education to support you in this work.

The survey will take approximately **5 minutes** and responses are confidential. Thank you for your feedback!

Questions? Email Roxanne Korpan at communications@suma.org.

[Complete the Survey](#)

Notice: SUMA Group Benefits Document Hub to be Decommissioned April 15, 2026

Due to issues beyond our control, the SUMA Group Benefits Document Hub will be decommissioned from the current website effective April 15, 2026

The SUMA Group Benefits team is actively working toward a solution to ensure that all content currently available on the Document Hub will continue to be accessible to GBI subscribers. Please watch for future communications with further details and next steps.

Questions? Email gjs@suma.org.

SEDA Database on Municipal and First Nations Incentives

SEDA is building a **province-wide municipal tax incentive database** to strengthen both local and economic development efforts. Municipalities are encouraged to submit any existing municipal incentives via the form at this [link](#).

Data will be stored in a simple excel document and provided as public access on SEDA's website. Help us create mutual benefits for municipalities, investors, and regional partners by participating in this database.

2026 NASCO Continental Reunion

The **2026 NASCO Continental Reunion** will be held on **May 5-7, 2026** in **Regina, Saskatchewan**—continuing NASCO's tradition of collaboration across borders and strengthening the ties that unite our North American community.

The NASCO Continental Reunion is a one-of-a-kind event that rotates annually among Canada, the United States, and Mexico, bringing together senior government officials, business executives, and industry experts from all three nations. Each year, the Reunion sparks candid discussions, fresh insights, and actionable ideas that drive North America's economic future.

This year's program will feature dynamic discussions and expert insights spotlighting North America's strengths in natural resources, critical minerals, energy, agriculture, and beyond.

For more details and to register, click [here](#).

Register Now: Free Ice Rink Retrofit Workshop & Expert Guidance

Are you planning an upgrade or retrofit for your local ice rink? Attend this free, one-day workshop at the **SPRA Spring Training Symposium** in **Humboldt, Saskatchewan**. Offered by the **Climate Ready Infrastructure Service (CRIS)** funded by the Government of Canada, this session brings participants on a crash course on optimizing ice rink retrofits, drawing on real world examples from projects in Saskatchewan. **Each participant will also receive a follow up energy study on their project completed by a CRIS Roster Expert at no cost.**



Open to communities with populations of 30,000 or less in Saskatchewan that have an ice rink or arena retrofit planned or in progress.

When: April 29, 2026, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Where: Uniplex Sports Complex, Humboldt, SK

[Learn More and Register](#)

National 2SLGBTQIA+ Politicians Forum 2026

The International Day of Pink is proud to announce the return of the national **2SLGBTQIA+ Politicians Forum**. This unique, non-partisan gathering brings together 2SLGBTQIA+ elected officials, community leaders, and dedicated allies from every level of government—from school boards and municipalities to provincial, territorial, federal offices, and Indigenous Governments.

In an era of shifting global and domestic challenges, this forum serves as a vital space for our leaders to connect, share strategies, and build the solidarity needed to champion equity across Canada.

Who Should Attend?

- Elected Officials: Current and former 2SLGBTQIA+ officials and their staff.
- Allies & Community Leaders: Straight and cisgender colleagues, diplomats, and advocates committed to 2SLGBTQIA+ equity.
- Policy Makers: Those looking to build solidarity and share strategies for a more inclusive Canada.

Date: July 28, 2026

Location: Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Winnipeg, MB

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Followed by a closed-door evening reception)

Learn more and register [here](#).

2026 Dig Safe Awareness Breakfasts

The **Saskatchewan Common Ground Alliance (SCGA)** invites you to register for a **Dig Safe Awareness Breakfast** coming to a community near you in April.

These free Breakfasts are sponsored by over 20 industry members in partnership with the SCGA. For those attending in Lloydminster, SCGA is jointly hosting with Utility Safety Partners.

We encourage local fire and police departments, volunteer fire fighters, EMS personnel, safety officers and urban or rural councillors to attend.

The event runs from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., approximately (unless otherwise indicated on the registration).

Regina - April 1
Assiniboia - April 2
North Battleford - April 7
Yorkton - April 8
Preeceville - April 9
Warman - April 9
Prince Albert - April 14

Estevan - April 14
Humboldt - April 15
Maple Creek - April 15
Lloydminster - April 16
Melfort - April 16
Saskatoon - April 21

Carlyle - April 22
Moose Jaw - April 22
Weyburn - April 23
Moosomin - April 28
Swift Current - April 29
Kindersley - April 30

Register [here](#).

Why the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Funding Grant Matters

Municipalities often face resource constraints, administrative hurdles, and governance complexities for starting new or costly initiatives beyond normal operations of the municipality. **Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Grant Funding** directly addresses these issues by reviewing applications to fund **75% of these costs** with the intent to:

- **Encourage Inter-Community Collaboration:** Projects must involve at least one partner municipality or community, fostering regional unity and shared solutions.
- **Enhance Governance and Capacity:** Funding supports training, restructuring, and strategic planning that elevates municipal leadership and administration.
- **Drive Innovation in Service Delivery:** From emergency management plans to regional land use strategies, TSS-funded projects improve efficiency and responsiveness.

Each project can receive up to **75% of eligible costs, capped at \$100,000 maximum funding**, making it a high-impact, low-barrier opportunity for municipalities to innovate and grow.

TSS is a portion of Municipal Revenue Sharing (\$1.5 million per fiscal year) used to encourage inter-community collaboration, help build capacity and promote good governance in all Saskatchewan municipalities. The funds are used to support projects that help municipalities strengthen their core governance and administration responsibilities

The TSS Steering Committee is now accepting applications for funding under this program. **Applications are accepted at any time of the year and will be reviewed on a monthly basis.**

Please view the [intake guide](#) for details on the TSS initiative, project eligibility, and the application process. The online application portal can be accessed [here](#).

[Learn About How TSS Can Support Your Community](#)

Partnership with People First HR Provides Assistance to SUMA Members

Does the thought of HR make your head hurt? We get it.

HR issues can be complex and difficult to navigate. That's why SUMA has partnered with **People First HR** to provide group benefit members with HR On Call support and access to 100s of HR templates.

Approved callers can get HR On Call support for topics such as:

- Creating a respectful workplace
- Employee relations
- Managing leaves
- Performance management guidance including employee discipline
- Termination
- Disability management consultation (accommodations, return to work, doctor notes)
- Legislation and best practice
- Requirements for policy development and workplace procedures



Free up time with access to hundreds of HR templates

From recruitment to performance management, policies to respectful workplace (and so much more), with HR On Call you have access to hundreds of FREE HR templates to make supporting your team easier.

To learn more and access templates you need, email People First at hroncall@peoplefirstthr.com

ADVERTISEMENTS



Kinetic GPO

Kinetic GPO is pleased to announce a new competitively solicited and publicly awarded contract RFSO #25-07 for Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations and Services awarded to Siemens and SWTCH. Whether you need electric vehicle smart charging infrastructure to support offices, hospitals, airports, universities, public parking garages and parking lots, or schools, our awarded supplier partners have you covered.

Utilizing cooperative contracts simplifies the procurement process, saves time and money, ensures compliance, and makes purchasing seamless. **All of the contracts available through Kinetic GPO offer a variety of innovative, sustainable, and quality solutions for Canadian educators and public sector organizations.**

Discover how your organization can benefit from exclusive foodservice savings through Kinetic GPO and Foodbuy.

Kinetic GPO helps members simplify procurement, reduce purchasing costs, and maximize rebate opportunities. Complete this short survey to help us align our industry-leading purchasing programs with the needs of your operations in education, healthcare, daycare, and long-term care facilities. Unlock new possibilities to reduce costs and enhance your food service offerings. Start the survey now.

[Start the Survey Now](#)

For additional information please contact your Kinetic GPO Vice President of Member Experience and Business Development, **Dana MacDonald** at dana@kineticgpo.ca.

Webinar: Climate Toolkit Prairie Support Program

Join **Asset Management Saskatchewan** and **NAMS Canada** for a free webinar introducing asset management mentoring support through the **Climate Toolkit Prairie Support Program**, for Prairie communities under 30,000. This session will cover practical guidance on maturity assessment, improvement planning, funding and program navigation, with asset management and climate considerations built in to the discussion. If your community is looking for practical support to strengthen long-term service delivery and planning, this webinar is a great place to start.

Date: April 28, 2026 at 11 a.m. CT

Click [here](#) to register now! Contact support@namscanada.org for more information.



Webinar | April 28, 11am CT

Free Asset Management Support for Prairie Communities

Register today!

NAMS Canada AM-58 Canada

Municipal Audit Services

Murray, Sen & Associates CPA LLP provides professional municipal audit services designed specifically for the needs of municipal councils and administrators. Our experienced Chartered Professional Accountants understand the responsibility municipalities carry in managing public funds and reporting to their communities with clarity, accuracy, and transparency.



Why Municipal Councils Choose Our Firm:

- Independent Financial Statement Audits
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Municipal leaders require an audit partner that combines professional independence, technical expertise, and a clear understanding of municipal governance. Our team works collaboratively with administration while maintaining the professional objectivity and reliability that the Council expects. Partner with a firm committed to accuracy, integrity, and dependable service.

Contact: vsen@murraysen.ca

Visit: www.murraysen.ca

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:



Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- [Town of Shellbrook](#): Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (April 27)
- [City of Lloydminster](#): Executive Assistant - Community Development Services (April 29)
- [Statistics Canada](#): Census Team Employees (June 9)
- [Town of Osler](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)
- [Town of Maidstone](#): Administrator (until filled)
- [RM of Redburn No. 130](#): Administrator (until filled)
- [Village of Avonlea](#): Water Treatment & Distribution Operator (until filled)

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.

- Office of the Provincial Interlocutor: *First Nations and Métis Community Engagement Project Fund* (Year-round)
- CMHC: *Seed Funding* (Year-round)
- CMHC: *Affordable Rental Innovation Fund* (Year-round)

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

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