

MUNICIPAL Update

July 27, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 13-14

SUMA Council Summer School

September 15

Webinar: Privacy Law
Modernization for Municipalities

September 28

Virtual Procurement Bootcamp
for Urban Municipal
Administrators

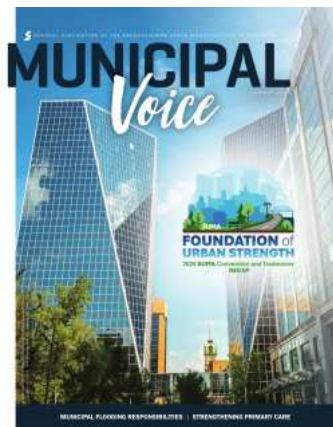
See all [upcoming events](#).

Help Shape the Future of the SUMA Convention and Tradeshow

SUMA is working to identify sponsors and partners that align with the needs, priorities, and interests of Saskatchewan's urban municipalities. This short **survey** will help us better understand the challenges municipalities are facing, upcoming priorities and purchasing needs, how municipal leaders evaluate new products and services, and what creates the best Convention experience. Your feedback will help us attract relevant sponsors and enhance future SUMA events.

The survey takes approximately 3–5 minutes to complete. All responses are anonymous, and every question is optional. As a thank you for participating, you'll have the opportunity to enter a draw for a **\$100 gift card of your choice**. We appreciate your time and valuable feedback as we work to strengthen the SUMA Convention and Tradeshow experience.

[Complete the Survey](#)



Municipal Voice: Summer 2026 Issue Now Available

The Summer 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 recaps our experience at the 2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow and features articles on regional cooperation, municipal flooding responsibilities, attracting nurse practitioners, and more!

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, Board and Caucus meeting minutes, 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

2026 SUMA Library Symposium

On July 14, SUMA hosted a **Library Symposium**, bringing together directors, CEOs, and board members from Saskatchewan's library systems at our Regina office and online for discussions on the future of the library system, benefits and challenges of the current legislative environment, and shared advocacy.

Participants highlighted the growing role libraries play as essential community infrastructure and the need for stable, sustainable funding to support that work. SUMA is committed to advocating for the resources



municipalities and libraries need to continue fostering literacy, service access, learning, and community connection.

Amendments to the Provincial Disaster Assistance Program

SUMA supports the amendments to the **Provincial Disaster Assistance Program** (PDAP) regulations announced by the **Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency** (SPSA), in particular those geared toward municipalities:

- A new municipal incentive, allowing local authorities to lower their deductible by meeting emergency management and preparedness criteria.
- A new maximum deductible introduced for larger municipalities, tied to federal thresholds, making costs more predictable and manageable.

These measures will help manage already strained budgets and make assistance more accessible for all Saskatchewan municipalities.

However, we would like to see the SPSA and the provincial government, along with the Federal Government, take a more active role in ensuring municipalities have the appropriate safeguards in place in the event of an emergency.

Overall, we believe the best course of action is a significant reinvestment in municipal emergency services by *all orders of government* to ensure municipal fire departments and other emergency responders have access to the training and equipment required to respond to emergencies as safely and effectively as possible. A tri-party funding agreement such as the former Joint-Emergency Preparedness Program would create positive impact immediately. Pairing it with the return of the Canadian Emergency Management College to ensure training and communications are regulated and always available would ensure a national public safety net is in place and addresses both funding and training gaps that currently exist.

You can read the Government of Saskatchewan's release on the changes to PDAP [here](#).

Research Farms in Saskatchewan to Remain Open

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Saskatchewan's Ministry of Agriculture have announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding that will ensure research farms in Scott and Indian Head that had been slated to close will now remain open. SUMA advocated against the closure of these research centres, and we welcome the decision to keep the facilities open.

These centres are critical to advancing agricultural innovation, supporting producers, and strengthening Saskatchewan's economy. Their continued operation ensures valuable research, expertise, and local jobs remain in our province. A strong agricultural sector drives economic growth and supports local businesses in urban municipalities, helping communities across our province thrive.

Capacity Building Opportunities



Summer School: Registration Closes July 30!

Council Summer School is a professional development opportunity created specifically for elected municipal leaders. **Open exclusively to mayors and council**, join your peers for two immersive days of learning on **August 13 and 14** at the **University of Regina** or **participate online** from anywhere in the province.

Council Summer School is your chance to step away from the day-to-day, sharpen your leadership skills, and refocus on serving your community with confidence and clarity. This dynamic program explores essential topics tailored to the realities of municipal leadership and issues impacting today's councils. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn, network, and elevate your impact as a municipal leader. **Registration closes on Thursday July 30 at 12:00 p.m.**

During **Council Summer School** participants will hear from:

- Brownlee LLP
- Ombudsman Saskatchewan
- Equal Voice
- Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner
- Dr. Gordon McIntosh
- SUMA, SARM, and the Ministry of Government Relations

[View the complete agenda here.](#) Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network, and elevate your impact as a municipal leader.

Member Registration Fee
In Person - **\$500 + GST and PST**
Virtual - **\$450 + GST and PST**
Registration closes on July 30 at 12:00 p.m.

Register Now

Stay at the Atlas° Hotel

A room block has been arranged at The Atlas° Hotel for **\$159.95 per night** plus taxes and fees. Book by **July 30** to receive the discounted room rate.

Rooms are available for the nights of **August 12, 13 and 14.**

Call to book: 306-586-3443
Block Code: **081226SUM**

Book Online



Webinar



09.15.26
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Privacy Law Modernization for Municipalities



Sponsored by



Webinar: Privacy Law Modernization for Municipalities

On **Tuesday September 15** at **10:00 a.m.** join us for the webinar **Privacy Law Modernization for Municipalities**. This webinar will focus on recent changes to privacy laws in Canada and what Saskatchewan's municipalities can do to ensure their privacy program is ready for any future amendments to The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP).

Many Canadian provinces have passed modernized public sector privacy laws over the past few years, including Alberta, B.C., Ontario, and Nova Scotia, with new responsibilities placed on municipalities that align with citizens' heightened expectations of privacy. Additionally, the federal government has introduced an overhaul of its private sector privacy law, including significant new requirements for Saskatchewan-based businesses. With all of these changes, there are some important questions:

- What should Saskatchewan municipalities expect if Saskatchewan introduces changes to LAFOIP?
- What are the common themes in updated privacy laws?
- What can municipalities do to prepare now?

[Register Now](#)

SUMA's webinar program is
sponsored by



09.28.26
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators



Virtual Procurement Bootcamp: Join us online this fall

On **Monday, September 28** from **9:00 a.m.** to **3:00 p.m.**, join us **online** for the ***Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators***.

This is the final year this program will be offered, so 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.

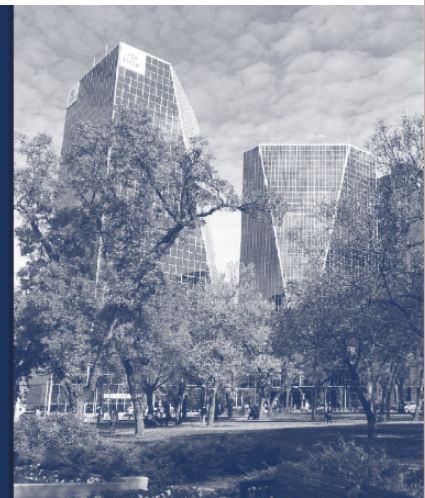
If you attended the session in Saskatoon on June 2 ahead of the UMAAS Convention, this is the same presentation. Continue to keep an eye on member emails, Municipal Update, and SUMA's website for more information about the "Part 2" session that will be hosted virtually in October.

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 virtual workshop is not to be missed.

Thanks to funding through the Targeted Sector Support (TSS) initiative, this one-day Procurement Bootcamp is free for SUMA member municipalities.

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](#)



MuniCast Season 10

Season 10 of ***MuniCast*** highlights a simple but powerful theme: **working better together**. Through conversations with municipal leaders, provincial representatives, community partners, and innovators, season 10 explores advocacy, leadership, collaboration, reconciliation, and the creative solutions helping communities thrive. Along the way, listeners will discover the people, partnerships, and ideas shaping the future of local government in Saskatchewan. Listen to each episode on YouTube by clicking on its link below.

- [Episode 1 - SUMA 2026 Convention](#)
- [Episode 2 - Advocacy on the Convention Floor](#)
- [Episode 3 - Convention Keynotes: Leading, Listening, and Looking Ahead](#)
- [Episode 4 - Provincial Conversations, Municipal Priorities](#)
- [Episode 5 - Working Better Together](#)
- [Episode 6 - Municipal Marvels](#)
- [Episode 7 - Beyond the Groundwork: First Nations and Municipal Relations](#)
- [Episode 8 - Cities4Cities](#)
- [Episode 9 - On the Road with SUMA](#)

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.

OTHER UPDATES

Dialogue with Local Leaders at Treaty 6 150th Commemoration

This year, Treaty 6 First Nations are commemorating **150 years since the signing of Treaty 6 with a four-day event from August 20 to 23 at Fort Carlton.**



Are you wanting to learn more about your role in the Treaty partnership as a municipal leader? On August 21, municipal leaders are invited to participate in a **Witâskêwin Dialogue** from 4-6pm. A nêhiyaw (Cree) doctrine meaning 'to share the land in peace and harmony,' this will be an informal conversation between First Nations, industry, community organizations, and municipal leadership about how to meaningfully implement witâskêwin. There will be a fish fry dinner provided to attendees that evening.

In keeping with the integral role of nêhiyaw (Cree) protocols during Treaty negotiations, this Commemoration centres traditional ceremonies such as pipe ceremonies and feasts. Municipal leaders are also invited and encouraged to participate--this is a meaningful way to reflect on our shared history, honour the Spirit and Intent of Treaty, and reaffirm our commitment to its ongoing implementation for future generations.

Visit treaty6150.ca for more information. For questions or inquiries, please contact Julia Morelli from the Office of the Treaty Commissioner at treaty6150@otc.ca.

There's Still Time to Complete the 2026 Census

If you haven't completed your census questionnaire yet, there's still time to do so online: [Welcome to the 2026 Census](#).

Census data and your responses are vital and helps inform decisions about schools, daycare centres, family services, public transportation, and employment programs in your community. Census employees have also been reaching out by phone and email, and field crews visiting households in your community to follow up and offer assistance, if needed. They will carry an identification card featuring the Statistics Canada identifier, along with their name, photo, and employee number.

Residents can quickly complete their forms using these official methods:

In Person: Complete the form right at your doorstep. Census field workers are fully equipped to help residents fill out the questionnaire securely in person.

Online: Completing your census questionnaire online is easy, secure, and confidential by entering a 16-digit access code on the [Statistics Canada Census Portal](#).

By Phone: If you need assistance or do not have reliable Internet access, you can request a paper questionnaire or complete it over the phone by calling the official Census Help Line at **1-833-852-2026** to complete it directly with an agent. (For TTY hearing/speech impaired service, call **1-833-830-3109**).

By Mail: Complete and mail back the paper questionnaire if one was dropped off at the home. For more information, visit: [2026 Census – Contact us](#).

Please Share: Health Card Renewal

This fall, eHealth is sending health card renewal stickers in the mail to extend Saskatchewan residents' health coverage to December 31, 2029. eHealth needs to have the correct mailing address and family information on file for residents to ensure everyone receives their stickers in the mail.

An out-of-date address means people won't receive their stickers and risk having their health coverage suspended. If their contact or family information has changed in the past three years, they should visit the [eHealth Saskatchewan](#) website and follow the instructions to update their information.

To help remind residents about the health card renewal process and the importance of having correct information on file, please print and display this [poster](#) in your municipal office or share [eHealth's Facebook page](#) on your community's social media channels.

2026 Pre-Budget Consultations

This fall, the Government of Canada will deliver **Budget 2026**, which will update Canadians on the government's progress on its plan to Build Canada Strong over the past year, while continuing to support Canadians and businesses and positioning the country for long-term prosperity. This includes measures that strengthen economic growth, improve affordability, and support the next generation of Canada's workforce.

Pre-Budget consultations are an opportunity for Canadians from across the country to share their ideas and priorities on how to shape Canada's future. Join the conversation by responding to the questionnaire below or sending in a formal submission, both of which can be submitted until **September 8, 2026**.

Take the questionnaire [here](#).

Formal submissions, including letters or papers, can be submitted [here](#).

Flooding Resource List

Ombudsman Saskatchewan has compiled a list of resources to support communities experiencing flooding, including emergency lines, public safety and assistance, mental health and wellness, utilities, and insurance.

Please access the list [here](#).

New Online Portal for Spring Flooding Support

The **Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA)** is launching a new online information portal to help Saskatchewan residents, municipalities, businesses and agricultural producers access timely information and supports related to spring flooding.

The portal includes:

- Emergency support for flooding;
- Recovery information for homeowners and municipalities;
- Business support and recovery resources;
- Information for agricultural producers;
- Environmental information; and
- Flood forecasting advisories and technical guidance.

Emergency Declaration and Provincial Disaster Assistance Program

If you are a community leader and your municipality is needing support, visit [Requesting SPSA Assistance](#) on saskpublicsafety.ca or contact your SPSA Emergency Services Officer (ESO). If you do not know the contact information for your ESO, contact the SPSA's general inquiry line at 1-800-667-9660 (option 5, then option 1).

The SPSA's website also contains information and templates for municipalities to use if they need to make an [emergency declaration](#) to exercise additional authorities to deal with an emergency or make a designation through the [Provincial Disaster Assistance Program](#) (PDAP) to receive financial support.

Municipalities should encourage their residents to:

- Download the [SaskAlert app](#) which sends alerts about emergencies in real-time so they can keep themselves, their loved ones, and their property safe.
- View current fire bans and restrictions in Saskatchewan using the SPSA interactive [fire ban map](#).
- [Prepare for an emergency](#) in case they need to take care of themselves and their family.

Flood Recovery Assistance: Important Contact Information

Flood Recovery Task Team – Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency: **1-800-667-9660**

Provincial Disaster Assistance Program (PDAP): **1-866-632-4033**

Water Security Agency (WSA): **1-866-727-5420**

Ministry of Highways Customer Service Centre: **1-844-754-4929**

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC): **1-888-935-0000**

Ministry of Agriculture Ag Knowledge Centre (Livestock): **1-866-457-2377**

Farm Stress Line: **1-800-667-4442**

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@peoplefirsthr.com

ADVERTISEMENTS



Kinetic GPO

Kinetic GPO is pleased to announce a new competitively solicited and publicly awarded contract RFSO 25-13 for Equipment Rental and Services awarded to [Sunbelt Rentals](#) and [United Rentals of Canada](#). Whether you need equipment rentals or ongoing maintenance and services, our awarded supplier partners have you covered.

We are also pleased to announce a new competitively bid contract **RFSO 25-12** for Online Business Marketplace for Goods and Services awarded to [Amazon Business](#).

A new contract **RFSO 26-02** for **Electrical Mapping and Geographic Information (GIS) Services with Related Equipment** was awarded to [CircuitIQ](#) and [Coastal Resource Mapping](#).

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.**

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

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- [Town of Dalmeny](#): Chief Administrative Officer (August 3)
- [RM of Vanscoy No. 345](#): Planning Assistant (August 6)
- [Town of Tisdale](#): Director of Public Works and Utilities (August 16)
- [Resort Village of Aquadeo](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)
- [Town of Balcarres](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)
- [Village of Muenster](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)

Items for Sale:

- [Town of Wynyard](#): 2020 8 FT Shoule Box Scraper HLL-8 (July 17)
- [Town of Wynyard](#): Garbage Truck - 2008 Freightliner Business Class M2 (August 6)

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

Upcoming Deadlines:

- 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.

SUMA | suma.org

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