UPCOMING EVENTS

April 6

Webinar **-** Going Green with FCM: Your Guide to the Green Municipal Fund

April 12

SHA Virtual Town Hall (registration not yet available)

April 13

Webinar **-** Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing Through Community Recreation

April 20

Webinar **-** Governance Essentials with George Cuff

April 27

Webinar **-** Calling Out Crime in Your Community

See all **upcoming events**.

Additional $2.2 Billion for Federal Gas Tax Fund

On March 25, the Government of Canada announced doubling of the Federal Gas Tax fund for one year, and renaming of the fund to the Canada Community Building Fund.
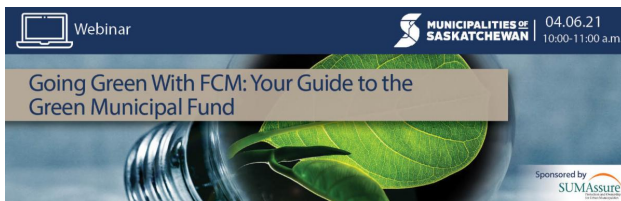
The additional funding and name change is part of the federal government's proposed **Bill C-25**.

The Gas Tax Fund provides municipalities with a permanent, predictable source of long-term funding, enabling construction and rehabilitation of core public infrastructure. It offers communities the flexibility to make strategic investments in local infrastructure.

Read more

Announcing Municipalities of Saskatchewan's April Webinars

Municipalities of Saskatchewan will be keeping your schedule busy in April as we host a new webinar each week. From green funding and community recreation to governance essentials and reducing crime in your community, there is a webinar for everyone.

Going Green with FCM: Your Guide to the Green Municipal Fund
April 6 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Find out how the Green Municipal Fund's Community Buildings Retrofit initiative supports local governments and not-for-profit organizations in retrofitting public buildings to lower GHG emissions, lower operating and maintenance costs, and extend the buildings' life cycle.

Tomorrow at **10:00 a.m.**:
• Discover the eligibility criteria and the funding available through the initiative.
• Understand the application process.
• Learn about other funding opportunities offered through the Green Municipal Fund.

Learn more and register for Going Green with FCM: Your Guide to the Green Municipal Fund

Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing Through Community Recreation
April 13 10:00-11:00 a.m.

In this webinar, the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association will talk about how recreation can be a catalyst for building safer and healthier communities. On **April 13** at **10:00 a.m.**, discover the importance of recreation, its influence on wellbeing, and how it can serve as a valuable complement to a holistic community mental health strategy.

This webinar was inspired by Tristen Durocher's interview featured at Convention 2021. Join the webinar at 9:00 a.m. to watch a recording of the Convention education session *Leadership Lessons from Tristen Durocher's 44 Day Fast.*

Learn more and register for Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing through Community Recreation

Good Governance Series — MUNICIPALITIES OF SASKATCHEWAN | 04.20.21 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Governance Essentials with George Cuff
Webinar program sponsored by SUMAssure

Governance Essentials with George Cuff
April 20 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Whether new to council or looking to refresh your knowledge, Municipalities of Saskatchewan's 2021 Good Governance series is for you. This three-part series will feature well known speakers sharing best government practices.

Join us online **April 20** at **10:00 a.m.** for the first webinar in the series featuring governance expert George Cuff. In his presentation *If They Told You Nothing Else,* Cuff will cover:
- Local government experiences and challenges;
- Bringing value to your council; and
- Top tips and messages for your council.

Learn more and register for Governance Essentials with George Cuff

Calling Out Crime in Your Community
April 27 10:00-11:00 a.m.

In 2020, Crime Stoppers Saskatchewan was awarded the International Crime Stoppers Award for Total Property Recovered in jurisdictions of 300,000 to 1 million population. The program saw an increase of 1,400 per cent from the previous year through the seizure of property, cash, and illegal drugs resulting from successful tips.

On **April 27** at **10:00 a.m.**, Sgt. Rob Cozine and three local leaders will present on the benefits of Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers in your community and how you can support the initiative.

Learn more and register for Calling Out Crime in Your Community

Event Insight
Results

In the last Municipal Update, we asked what time and day works best for you to attend Municipalities of Saskatchewan events. These are the poll results:

What time of day works best for you to attend Municipalities of Saskatchewan events?
Mornings work best - **44.7** per cent
I prefer afternoons - **40.8** per cent
I prefer evenings - **14.5** per cent

Would you prefer more events be held on weekends?
Yes, I would prefer more weekend events - **5.6** per cent
No, I prefer events being held between Monday and Friday - **77.5** per cent
Webinars are fine on weekdays but I would prefer longer events on weekends - **16.9** per cent

New Poll

We asked what time and day works best for you to attend Municipalities of Saskatchewan events. Now we'd like to know:

When would be the best time for you to attend Convention?

January-March	Select
April-June	Select
July-September	Select
October-December	Select

Adding Us to Your Safe Senders List

Is someone in your municipality having trouble receiving emails from Municipalities of Saskatchewan? We've heard from municipalities who are not receiving emails like Municipal Update, webinar invitations, or updates from the President.

Here are some tips to make sure the information you need lands in your inbox:

- Check your spam or junk mail folders.
- Be sure to add the Municipalities of Saskatchewan domain, munisask.ca, as well as suma@suma.ccsend.com to your safe sender list.

Not on Municipalities of Saskatchewan's mailing list?

Individual opt-in form

- If using an antivirus program like Norton Antivirus, it is recommended that rs6.net is specifically added to the antivirus safe sender list. The address rs6.net is a URL that our email program uses when we add links in our emails, like links to another website or a document.

$53 Million Announced for Recreation, Green Projects in Saskatchewan

On March 31 the Government of Canada and Government of Saskatchewan announced more than $53 million in joint funding for 24 recreation and green infrastructure projects in Saskatchewan.

Recreation infrastructure projects include improvements to arenas, swimming pools, and outdoor facilities. Several water and wastewater infrastructure projects are also receiving funding to improve capacity to meet current and future demand while ensuring continued compliance with provincial and federal regulations.

The Government of Canada is investing more than $31.1 million in these 24 projects through the Investing in Canada plan, with the Government of Saskatchewan providing more than $22.7 million.

Learn more

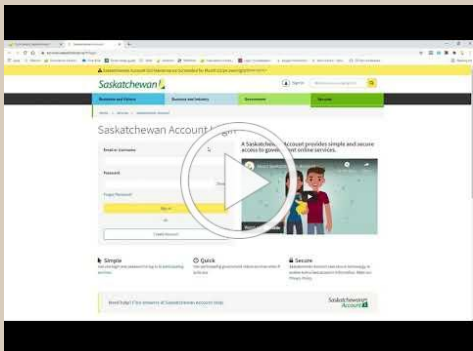**See the list of projects**

Building Near Railways - FCM-RAC Proximity Initiative

Canada's railways have played a fundamental role in communities across Canada for more than a century. From coast to coast, communities have been built around rail tracks.

But the practice of developing land in close proximity to railway operations, and the expansion of rail in urban areas, has caused some challenges for municipalities, developers, and railways. That's where the Proximity Initiative comes in.

Created jointly by the Railway Association of Canada (RAC) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the goal of the FCM-RAC Proximity Initiative is to

New - Doing Business with the Ministry Website

The Ministry of Highways has officially launched its new Doing Business with the Ministry website.

The new URL for the site is **www.saskatchewan.ca/highways-business**. Be sure to update your bookmarks and use this URL moving forward. There is a new category structure on the site. Although there is a different structure, existing documents were not revised.

The new site has many features not previously available. These include:
- A search function
- The ability to tag specific documents

prevent problems from arising between railways and residents. The initiative is led by a committee of elected officials and senior railway representatives from across Canada, who work together to develop strategies to reduce misunderstanding, increase safety, and avoid unnecessary conflict arising from railway-community proximity.

By providing the public with up-to-date resources and information on rail infrastructure and operations, municipal planning guidelines, and a dispute resolution process, the Proximity Initiative is helping to bridge any gaps between railways and residents, while pursuing common goals that will benefit communities, railways, and the country as a whole.
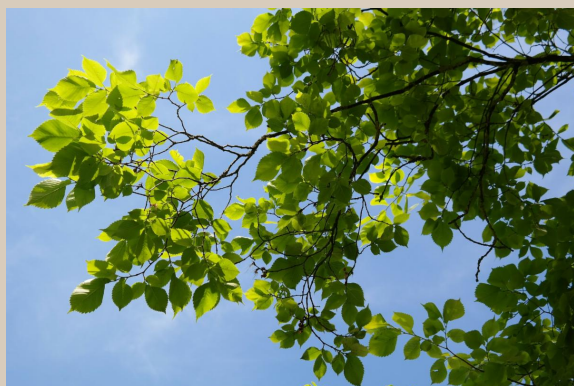
See the guidelines.

- or categories for quick reference
- Availability on any iOS or android device with an internet connection
- A future opportunity for push notifications to users

Read the **how-to document** and watch the **video that outlines navigating the site** and using some of its features, including creating a Saskatchewan account.

Future opportunities are in the works for live demos of the site, which will include a chance to ask questions.

If you have any questions or feedback on the new system, reach out to the Ministry of Highways Project Support Office at **mhiknowledgewarehouse@gov.sk.ca**.

Ban On Pruning Elm Trees In Effect

The annual ban on pruning elm trees in Saskatchewan to help curb the spread of Dutch elm disease (DED) is in effect now until August 31. During this period, it is illegal to prune elm trees.

The ban occurs at the time of year when the elm bark beetles that spread DED are most active. Fresh cuts from trimming trees can attract the tiny insects, increasing the chance of an infection.

Tips for Protecting Elms in Your Community:
- Prune elms before or after the ban period to keep them healthy and better able to resist all types of disease, including DED.
- Remove unhealthy and dead elm wood cuts, reducing places for beetles to breed and the risk of infection.
- Remove and dispose of DED-infected elms promptly, including

Updated Recycling Database for Saskatchewan Residents

The Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council has announced an updated **recycling database**. Saskatchewan residents can now enter their community and what they want to recycle to see a list of options, including a map of locations and details.

Further plans to enhance the database in 2021 include the addition of "Pass it On" and "Repair" information. Consumers will be able to find options to keep products in use longer by fixing them or giving them away. Adding these options helps Saskatchewan residents move toward a more circular economy, where keeping resources in use as long as possible and recycling only at the end of life are key factors.

The "Pass it On" and "Repair" features will be available in the fall of 2021.

during the ban period.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Saskatchewan Health Authority Virtual Town Hall

The next COVID-19 virtual town hall hosted by the Saskatchewan Health Authority is scheduled for **April 12** at **3:00 p.m.**

The Saskatchewan Health Authority, who has been hosting virtual town halls weekly for stakeholders, is moving the event to a biweekly schedule.

A link to register for the April 12 event will be provided once it becomes available.

Read the latest update from the SHA

All Public Health Measures Extended Until April 12

The provincial public health orders announced March 9 and the Regina and area revisions announced March 24 have been extended to **April 12**.

In Regina and area:
- Private gatherings are prohibited.
- All restaurants and licensed establishments are closed for in-person dining; take-out and delivery is permitted.
- Event venues including banquet and community halls, conference facilities, arts venues, museums, libraries, live theatre, cinemas, arcades, bowling and science centres, or any non-essential indoor locations that had limits of 30 individuals are not permitted to operate at this time.
- Places of worship remain at current capacity, which is a maximum of 30 individuals.
- Travel is also not recommended in or out of the area unless absolutely necessary.
- It is strongly recommended that all individuals in the Regina area able to work from home do so.

These additional measures apply to the city of Regina and area including: Belle Plaine, Pense, Grand Coulee, Lumsden Beach, Regina Beach, Craven, Lumsden, Edenwold, Pilot Butte, White City, Balgonie, Kronau, Davin, Gray, Riceton, RM of Lajord, RM of Edenwold, RM of Sherwood, RM of Pense, and the RM of Lumsden.

Provincially:
- Masks are mandatory in all indoor public spaces.
- All private dwelling indoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 10 individuals (excluding Regina and area).
- Outdoor gatherings limited to maximum 10 people (People in attendance must ensure that physical distancing of at least two metres between households is maintained).
- Visits to long-term care and personal care homes suspended except for compassionate reasons.

Read the full list of measures

COVID-19 Drive-Thru Vaccination Sites Announced

With earlier than expected allocations of the AstraZeneca vaccine, the Saskatchewan Health Authority is expediting the opening of additional drive-thru and walk-in vaccine clinics in communities including Regina, Saskatoon, Yorkton, Moose Jaw, Weyburn, Swift Current, Prince Albert, Lloydminster, and North Battleford.

Clinics will be available to residents 55 years of age and older. All of these clinics will be first come first serve.

See **targeted start dates** for the clinics.

Advocacy Update

Canada Water Association

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, in conjunction with the Minister of Natural Resources and Special Representative for the Prairies, has been mandated to create a Canada Water Agency (CWA), with inputs from provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, and others to ensure Canadian water is clean, safe, and properly managed.

Municipalities of Saskatchewan welcomes this initiative and has endorsed a letter of support to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to have the CWA head office located in Regina.

Municipalities of Saskatchewan believes that the economic benefits such as job creation of locating the CWA in Regina are immeasurable and will add value.

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS

Classifieds

Positions Available:

- City of Melfort: *City Clerk* (April 6)

- Village of Abernethy: *Administrator* (April 6)

- Town of Broadview: *Town Foreman* (April 9)

- Town of Sintaluta: *Chief Administrative Officer* (April 15)

- Town of St. Paul: *Chief Financial Officer* (April 30)

Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program *Green Stream – Landfill Decommissioning* (Applications accepted until funding fully allocated)

Other:

- SaskPower *Rink Relief Program* (March 1 to September 1, 2021)

- Town of Whitewood: *Facility Operations Manager* (When filled)

- Village of Avonlea: *Water Plant Operator* (When filled)

For Sale:

- *Transit Vehicle*

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.

For a full listing of grants, check the Grants section of our website under the Resources tab.

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