

MUNICIPAL Update

August 24, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 15

Webinar: Privacy Law
Modernization for Municipalities

September 28

Virtual Procurement Bootcamp
for Urban Municipal
Administrators

October 21

Emerging Trends in Municipal
Law

October 28

Part 2: Virtual Procurement
Bootcamp for Urban Municipal
Administrators

See all [upcoming events](#).

SUMA Commemorates 150 Years of Treaty 6 Agreement

This weekend at Fort Carleton, SUMA helped commemorate **150 years since the Treaty 6 agreement** and to recognize the ongoing Treaty relationship. This is an important step in living out the Memorandum of Understanding SUMA signed with the **Office of the Treaty Commissioner** (OTC) in 2025, which aims to strengthen Treaty relations among urban municipalities and build understanding of Treaty rights.

On August 21, SUMA sponsored and attended the Witâskêwin Dialogue with First Nations, community organizations, industry, and leadership, with CEO Jean-Marc offering opening remarks. SUMA President Randy Goulden and Board Member Gerald Aalbers, along with other mayors from municipalities in Treaty 6, participated in the Grand Entry of the Commemorative Ceremony on August 23, which was attended by First Nations chiefs and Elders, the Governor General of Canada, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, the Treaty Commissioner, the Premier, and other dignitaries.

Thank you to the OTC and other organizers for their leadership and the invitation to join this historic event.



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

Pre-Budget Advocacy

Every year, SUMA provides pre-budget submissions to the Government of Saskatchewan, identifying areas for investment in the municipal sector and adjacent services. This year, we prepared six submissions, targeting nine ministers:

- Minister of Community Safety
- Minister of Government Relations
- Minister of Highways
- Minister of Environment
- Minister of Advanced Education
- Minister of Education

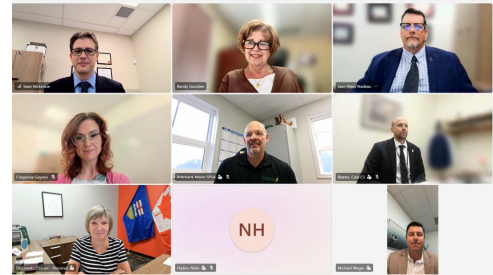
- Minister of Health
- Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health
- Minister of Social Services

All were all largely focused on financial and regulatory pressures municipalities are facing and how targeted provincial investments could alleviate these challenges and improve local service delivery and community resilience. We look forward to responses from these Ministers and will ensure SUMA members remain updated on our advocacy.

If you have questions about SUMA's pre-budget advocacy, reach out to Director of Advocacy Sean McKenzie at advocacydir@suma.org.

SUMA Advocates for Emergency Management Support

SUMA was pleased to meet with the **Honourable Eleanor Olszewski, Federal Minister of Public Safety**, and the **Honourable Michael Weger, Provincial Minister Responsible for Community Safety**, on August 19.



We discussed the importance of a cost-shared program to pay for response equipment, a need for improved communications between all orders of government prior, during, and following an emergency event, and the potential for standardized training and response such as the former Canadian Emergency Management College that would improve outcomes for all communities across Canada.

Emergency management is a tri-party responsibility, and conversations like this are imperative to ensuring a collaborative approach can be taken. We appreciate the Ministers' time and look forward to continuing this important relationship.

Meeting with Provincial DM and ADM of Community Safety

On August 12, SUMA CEO Jean-Marc Nadeau, Director of Advocacy Sean McKenzie, and Advocacy and Communications Advisor Cheyenne Geysen met with the **Deputy Minister of Community Safety Kimberly Kratzig** and **Assistant Deputy Minister Corey Zaharuk**. This meeting functioned as an initial meet-and-greet for DM Kratzig, who is new to the role, and a refresher on SUMA's community-safety related advocacy for ADM Zaharuk.

We discussed the status of contract policing in Canada, in particular the need for the Federal Government to provide clarity to both the Province and Saskatchewan's MPSA contract holding communities around contract policing beyond 2032. We also briefly touched on updates from the RCMP-Contract Management Committee to ensure both SUMA and the province were on the same page.

We also impressed upon DM Kratzig and ADM Zaharuk the importance of the Province setting aside funding to re-open the *Police Act, 1991*, for a significant re-write. Finally, we heard that the Province will be sharing an update around RCMP cost distribution for the 2026-27 budget year very soon.

These meetings are an important part of maintaining our relationship with the Province, and we look forward to continuing to meet with DM Kratzig and ADM Zaharuk regularly.

Seeking Your Feedback: Building Schools Faster Act and Regulations

SUMA continues to engage with the Provincial Government on consultations on the **Building Schools Faster Act and Regulations**.

If you have any concerns or feedback you'd like to make sure we include in our discussions with provincial officials, please contact Dustin Austman, Advocacy Advisor, at 306-525-4321 or advocacy3@suma.org, no later than Friday, September 4.

Caucus Meetings Ongoing

The City Caucus held its meeting on August 11, and the Village and Resort Village Caucus met on August 19. Meeting minutes for both of these meetings are available in the Member Portal. Take a look to keep up to date on what your caucus is doing.

The Northern Caucus meeting is upcoming on August 26 and the Town Caucus will meet on August 27.

Do you have a concern or feedback you want to share with your caucus? Find your caucus representative [here](#), and reach out to them directly. You can find contact information for municipalities in the Government of Saskatchewan's [Municipal Directory](#). Look up your municipality in our [Member Directory](#) if you're not sure which region you're located in.

Bylaw Courts Information Session: Key Takeaways

Last month, the Ministry of Community Safety hosted an information session on **bylaw courts in Saskatchewan**. These courts are located in Rosthern, Kindersley and Fort Qu'Appelle and utilize the hub model that SUMA advocated for as part of our larger work on bylaw enforcement across the province.

A key questions and answers document has been developed, available for download [here](#).

For more information about the new bylaw court hubs, visit the new [Municipal Bylaw Courts webpage](#) on Saskatchewan.ca.

The page includes the latest information to help you manage the new court hubs, as well as:

- a fillable **Municipal Bylaw Request Form** and **Bylaw Court Docket**;
- court locations and schedules;
- catchment area maps; and
- links to the *Summary Offence and Procedures Act* (SOPA) and Regulations, the Municipal Bylaw Guide, and sample bylaws.

If you have any other questions or comments about the new bylaw court hubs, please contact bylaws@gov.sk.ca.

Submit a **Municipal Bylaw Request Form** to begin accessing the court to enforce your bylaws.

Capacity Building Opportunities



SUMA Council Summer School Recap

On **August 13 and 14** we welcomed Mayors and Council from throughout Saskatchewan to **SUMA Council Summer School**. Over 70 in person and online attendees participated in two days of informative sessions focused on municipal governance, leadership, collaboration, and community development.

On Thursday, attendees gained valuable insights into legislative requirements and best practices for municipal decision-making, exploring practical strategies for conflict resolution, procedural fairness, and building productive council relationships. Sessions also highlighted the importance of diverse leadership while deepening participants' understanding of municipal obligations, common challenges, and effective approaches to managing information requests. For in person participants, the evening concluded with a rooftop dinner at Fancy Fork featuring a presentation by Sam Karikas, CEO of the RCMP Heritage Centre, who discussed the role of heritage in municipal economic development and its impact on community growth and tourism.

Friday's sessions centered on the value of collaboration in strengthening municipalities and delivering better outcomes for residents. Participants explored practical tools and strategies for building effective partnerships across governments, organizations, and communities, with a focus on identifying opportunities for shared services and joint initiatives. Discussions on regional cooperation--including a panel with SUMA President Randy Goulden, SARM President Bill Huber, and the Deputy Minister of Government Relations Drew Wilby--highlighted the benefits of stronger urban-rural relationships and collaborative approaches to service delivery. The day wrapped up with a look at how SUMA supports these efforts through its advocacy, governance leadership, and member services, helping municipalities build connections and work together more effectively across Saskatchewan.



SUMA Council Summer School
was sponsored by



BROWNLEE LLP
Barristers & Solicitors



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



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.* 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.

On **Wednesday, October 28** from **9:00 a.m.** to **3:00 p.m.**, join us online for ***Part 2: Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators***. This session is open to administration who participated in one of the "Part 1" sessions in Saskatoon on June 2 ahead of the UMAAS Convention, or the online session on September 28. Join us for this opportunity to take a deeper dive into your procurement practices!

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 for Part 1](#)

[Register for Part 2](#)



Virtual Workshop: Emerging Trends in Municipal Law

Join us online on **Wednesday, October 21** from **8:30 a.m.** to **12:15 p.m.** to learn about the latest legal insights and current issues relevant to municipalities across the province. Presented by lawyers from Brownlee LLP, the virtual workshop **Emerging Trends in Municipal Law** will provide municipal leaders with high level overview of key legal principles impacting governance and risk management strategies tailored to Saskatchewan's municipal landscape.

Topics include:

- Protecting municipalities from internal fraud
- Duty of care
- Regional governance
- Employer rights and obligations relating to off-duty misconduct

The morning will end with a Bearpit style session for attendees to ask presenters additional questions.

This event is exclusively for SUMA members. There is no cost to attend.

[Register Now](#)



MuniCast Season 11 Coming Soon!

Season 11 of MuniCast will start airing later this fall. We look forward to another season of engaging conversations on municipal leadership. While you wait, catch up on previous seasons of MuniCast!

- Season 1 - Lessons in Leadership
- Season 2 - Good Governance
- Season 3 - Mental Health and Addictions
- Season 4 - Tune In

- Season 5 - Municipal Engagement with Truth and Reconciliation
- Season 6 - Who is SUMA?
- Season 7 - Municipal Education
- Season 8 - SUMA's Advocacy
- Season 9 - SUMA's Evolving Governance
- Season 10 - Working Better Together

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

OTC Speaker Series: Orange Shirt Day

For members located in and around Saskatoon, join the Office of the Treaty Commissioner and the Western Development Museum on **August 27 from 6 - 7:30 p.m.** for an open discussion and education on the significance of Orange Shirt Day and the lasting effects of residential schools. (Ages 16+). In person only. Free admission.

For more information, please contact treatyeducation@otc.ca or visit <https://otc.ca/event/otc-speaker-series-orange-shirt-day/>.

From Risk to Resilience: Funding Municipal Climate Action

Learn how municipalities can access Green Municipal Fund support through the Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative to assess climate risks, develop adaptation plans, test project feasibility, and implement resilience-building solutions at the webinar **From Risk to Resilience: Funding Municipal Climate Action by ClimateWest**. This session will highlight available funding streams and incentives for regional collaboration, reconciliation, and equity-focused work. It is designed for elected officials, municipal administrators, and staff looking to strengthen local climate resilience. Come prepared with a few project ideas. There will be time to ask questions and brainstorm solutions.

Date: Wednesday, September 9

Time: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM CDT

Click [here](#) to register.

Canadian Red Cross Distributing N95 Masks for Communities Affected by Wildfires

On behalf of the Government of Canada, the **Canadian Red Cross is distributing N95 respirator masks and medical masks, free of charge**, to organizations located in communities that may be affected by wildfire smoke, respiratory viruses, and other public health events requiring personal protective equipment.

To distribute N95 respirator masks and/or medical masks, free of charge, within your community, please submit your order form by visiting the following link: redcross.ca/maskdistributionorderform.

For additional information, visit <https://www.redcross.ca/maskdistribution> where you can access and download the following materials, in both English and French:

- Technical specification sheets for the N95 respirator masks and medical masks that are available through this program.
- Tip sheets by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Canadian Red Cross with health and safety guidance on using N95 respirator masks during wildfire smoke events and information on actions individuals can take to help reduce the spread of respiratory illness.

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](#).

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 La Ronge](#): Director of Public Works (August 28)
- [City of Moose Jaw](#): Director of Economic & Community Development (September 15)
- [Town of Balcarres](#): Temporary Assistant Administrator (until filled)
- [Resort Village of Aquadeo](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)
- [Northern Village of Air Ronge](#): Chief Administrative Officer (until filled)
- [Town of Swan River](#): Chief Administrative Officer (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.



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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