

# MUNICIPAL Update

April 19, 2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 20**

Webinar - Governance Essentials with George Cuff

**April 27**

Webinar - Calling Out Crime in Your Community

**May 18**

Workshop - Harassment and Disputes: How to Handle Conflict in Your Municipality

**May 19**

Town, Village, and Northern Sector Meeting

See all [upcoming events](#).



## Join the 2022 Convention Focus Group

Municipalities of Saskatchewan is working to better engage with our membership. Earlier this year, we invited elected officials to join one of our four internal advocacy committees. We are now looking for municipal leaders, both elected officials and administration, to be part of a Convention focus group.

Learn more

## Workshop and Sector Meeting this May

A promotional banner for a virtual workshop. On the left, it says 'Virtual Workshop' with a computer icon. The main title is 'Harassment and Disputes: How to Handle Conflict in Your Municipality'. It includes several icons representing conflict resolution, communication, and support. On the right, it says 'MUNICIPALITIES OF SASKATCHEWAN' and '05.18.21 1:00-4:00 p.m.'. At the bottom right, it is sponsored by 'MLT AIKINS WESTERN CANADA'S LAW FIRM'.

**Learn How to Handle Conflict in Your Municipality**  
May 18 1:00-4:00 p.m.

A promotional banner for a virtual meeting. On the left, it says 'Virtual Meeting' with a computer icon. The main title is '2021 Town, Village, and Northern Sector Meeting'. It features a background image of a video conference with several participants. On the right, it says 'MUNICIPALITIES OF SASKATCHEWAN' and '05.19.21 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.'. At the bottom right, it is sponsored by 'SaskWater'.

**Town, Village, and Northern Sector Meeting**  
May 19 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

In the municipal office or at the council table, disputes are bound to happen. Conflict can be healthy if managed well and resolved collaboratively. But if unresolved, it can hurt even the strongest municipalities. And harassment is never welcome.

On **May 18** from **1:00-4:00 p.m.** join Municipalities of Saskatchewan for the workshop *Harassment and Disputes: How to Handle Conflict in Your Municipality*. In this workshop:

- Learn ways to resolve disputes with residents, among staff, and around the council table; and
- Discover steps your municipality can take to ensure a harassment free workplace.

This workshop will also discuss CAO harassment and provide advice and guidance for those who may be unfamiliar with the resources and courses of action available.

Mayors, councillors, and administrators from Saskatchewan's towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities are invited to attend the virtual 2021 Town, Village, and Northern Sector Meeting on **May 19**.

The sector meeting is an opportunity to discuss current issues with others from similar sized communities, receive updates from Municipalities of Saskatchewan, take in a keynote address, and learn about asset management in an education session. [See the agenda](#) for more information.

Discussions during the meeting will be driven by members. If your municipality is interested in introducing topics for discussion, be sure to include them in the "Questions and Comments" section when registering.

The sector meeting is **free** for Municipalities of Saskatchewan representatives.

[Learn more and register for the workshop](#)

[Register for the sector meeting](#)

## Event Insight Results

In the last Municipal Update, we asked when would be the best time for you to attend Convention. These are the poll results:

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

January-March - **43.4** per cent  
April-June - **24.5** per cent  
July-September - **5.7** per cent  
October-December - **26.4** per cent

### New Poll

In your opinion, what would be the ideal length of Convention?

2 days

Select

3 days

Select

4 days

Select

## Don't Miss These April Webinars

Municipalities of Saskatchewan has been hosting a new webinar each week in April. Don't miss our final two April webinars.



### 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 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**

Municipalities of Saskatchewan's webinar program is sponsored by **SUMAssure**. Webinars are free to all Municipalities of Saskatchewan members.



### Last Chance to Shape Saskatchewan's Recycling Program

The Government of Saskatchewan is reviewing ***The Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Regulations*** and the Multi-Material Recycling Program.

The Ministry of Environment has released a discussion paper and is seeking input on several areas for consideration.



### New Funding for Municipalities

Infrastructure Canada is now accepting applications for their new federal Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis for projects under \$3 million and until July 6, for projects from \$3 million to \$25 million.

For more information about this Government of Canada program, visit **Green and Inclusive Community Buildings** or email **infc.gicbp-pbcvi.infc@canada.ca**.



## New Online Therapy Program Supporting Mental Health of Saskatchewan's First Responders

A new online tool is now supporting the mental health of current, former, and volunteer Public Safety Personnel (PSP) such as police officers, paramedics, firefighters, corrections workers, dispatch/communications officials, border service officers, and other first responders.

PSPNET, which is based out of the University of Regina and is funded by the Federal Government, helps Public Safety Personnel manage mental health challenges, such as depression, anxiety, and trauma.

Services are free of charge for current and former Saskatchewan PSP, can be accessed from the privacy of their home, and do not require a referral or a diagnosis, eliminating the need to advise employers or colleagues of their participation in the program.

The program is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with optional therapist support via telephone Monday to Friday, when the individual needs support. If you know someone who is, an active or retired PSP, who is experiencing symptoms such as depression, anxiety, trauma, or stress, please encourage them to access the program by visiting [www.pspnet.ca](http://www.pspnet.ca) or calling 306-337-7233 or 1-833-317-7233.



## Community Buildings Retrofit Initiative

In communities across the country, Canadians are feeling the impacts of climate change. By investing in existing and new initiatives that lower emissions and enhance the resiliency of communities, communities can create good, middle-class jobs, and advance Canada's clean energy future.

The Government of Canada and Federation of Canadian Municipalities has launched the **Community Buildings Retrofit initiative** to help communities of all sizes overcome the barriers of limited budgets and expertise when undertaking greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction projects.

Funded by a \$167-million federal investment in FCM's Green Municipal Fund, the new initiative supports Canadian municipalities, big and small, and not-for-profit organizations in undertaking retrofits and other upgrades to lower emissions by improving energy performance, lowering operating costs and extending the life of community assets. These investments will help communities decrease emissions generated by existing community buildings such as arenas, pools, libraries and recreation and cultural centres.

The Community Buildings Retrofit initiative will provide grants and loans to fund a portion of each project and expects to disburse the full funding envelope over the next six years. [Learn more.](#)



## WorkSafe Saskatchewan Launches Psychological Resource Centre for Employers and Workers

In the past five years, psychological health claims have been on the rise across the province. To address these issues, WorkSafe Saskatchewan has launched a comprehensive online psychological health and safety resource centre.

The resource centre offers a variety of tools and resources to help Saskatchewan employers and workers develop psychological health and safety programs in their workplaces or enhance their existing efforts. In addition to tools for leaders and workers, the resource centre has a comprehensive list of provincial mental health resources, as well as webinars and workshops.

The centre also provides answers to some commonly asked questions about psychological health and safety and lists contact information for community mental health resources in Saskatchewan.

Visit the [resource centre](#).



## Growing Canada's Forests Program Seeking Requests for Information

The Government of Canada, through the Growing Canada's Forests (GCF) program, is seeking Requests for Information from organizations interested in contributing to large-scale tree planting projects.

The GCF program is the Government of Canada's response to its commitment to plant an additional two billion trees by 2030.

They are seeking Requests for Information (RFI) from potential [future participants](#) interested in implementing or contributing to large-scale single or multiple-year tree planting projects. The Request for Information is not a Request for Proposals (RFP). Participation does not guarantee that Natural Resources Canada will enter into a funding agreement.

In its [Fall Economic Statement of 2020](#), the Government allocated up to \$3.16 billion over 10 years to this tree planting effort.

## 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 26 at 3:00 p.m.**

A link to register for the April 26 event will be provided once it becomes available.

[Read the latest update from the SHA](#)

Indoor Gatherings Limited For All of Saskatchewan

Household bubbles are now limited to **immediate household members only** for all of Saskatchewan. Persons who live alone and single parents of minor children are permitted to meet with one consistent household of less than five individuals. Co-parenting arrangements are permitted to continue. Caregivers, support personnel, and tradespersons who are not a member of the household are not included in the maximum number of people allowed in that household.

Worship gathering sizes are also limited to no more than 30 people.

These Public Health Order measures are in effect until **April 26** and will be reviewed at that time.

[Read the full list of measures](#)

## Vaccine Eligibility Unchanged for April 20

COVID-19 vaccine booking eligibility remains unchanged for April 20.

Eligible groups include all individuals 48 years of age and older, individuals 40 years of age and older living in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District, all remaining phase one health care workers, and people with underlying health conditions who are clinically extremely vulnerable through an eligibility letter.

[Read more](#) and see [Saskatchewan's COVID-19 Immunization progress report](#).

## Advocacy Update

### Mobile Vaccination Units to Prioritize First Responders with COVID-19 Vaccine

Saskatchewan's **vaccine delivery plan is beginning to target first responders** through mobile vaccination units. The units target first responders including police officers, firefighters, and public health inspectors.

Municipalities of Saskatchewan has been advocating for the vaccination of Saskatchewan's first responders as they continue to be on the frontlines during the pandemic.

### No Closures of Air Traffic Control Towers

Municipalities of Saskatchewan is pleased that Nav Canada will not be closing the air traffic control tower in Regina.

Nav Canada had been undertaking a review of the control tower in Regina, as well as other locations across the country. On Thursday, the company posted a **statement** on its website saying it is "committing that there will be no site closures at air traffic control towers or flight service stations across the country."

Municipalities of Saskatchewan raised concern over the closure of the tower, which provides a vital service to not only the City of Regina but also surrounding communities.

Nav Canada has also suspended aeronautical studies currently underway related to remote or northern locations until further notice.

# CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



## Classifieds

### Positions Available:

- Town of St. Paul: *Chief Financial Officer* (April 30)
- Village of Halbrite: *Administrator* (May 4)
- Town of Lumsden and RM of Lumsden No. 189: *Assistant Administrator* (May 7)
- Town of Wadena: *Chief Administrative Officer* (May 19)
- Town of Whitewood: *Facility Operations Manager* (When filled)
- Village of Avonlea: *Water Plant Operator* (When filled)
- Town of Gravelbourg: *Assistant CAO* (When 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:

- 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)

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

## Municipal Update Advertisement



### Lexcom UB Notify Tool

The UB Notify tool is a tool that helps utility companies decrease bad revenue from service disconnections while streamlining the collection process through simple text based reminders.

“Initial trials have shown an immense increase in customer satisfaction, decreased service disconnections due to non payment on accounts and

helped better manage our accounts through COVID-19. The value generated from the tool has far outweighed the cost to the overall program.”

As we work to broaden the scope and features of the UBNotify, Lexcom is currently looking for 100 more communities to join our program. We are offering the service for free for the first 60 days. After 60 days, pricing will start at \$29.95 a month for small communities with low needs. \$99 a month for cities of approximately 15,000 people that have 1,000 or less messages a month. Large cities may require a higher volume service and should contact Lexcom for more information.

Signing up is easy at [www.ubnotify.com](http://www.ubnotify.com)  
Email us for more information at: [bjanz@lexcom.ca](mailto:bjanz@lexcom.ca)

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