MUNICIPAL Update

November 2, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 4
MuniCast S11:E5

November 5
Webinar: Using the Sustainable Development Goals to Advance Our Local Agendas

November 16 & 17
Treaty Learning Journey: Let's Talk Truth

November 26
Webinar: Spill the TEA: Council vs Administrative Role in Tax Enforcement

January 20
Virtual SUMA Summit

See all upcoming events.

Showcase Your Municipality on the Princess Royal Walkway

The relationship between municipalities and their local RCMP detachment is about more than public safety, it's a partnership that helps communities thrive.

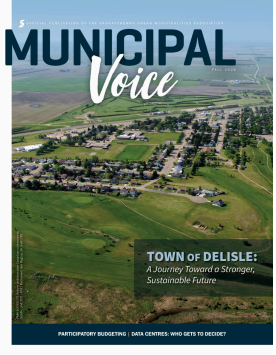
SUMA has collaborated with the **Friends of the RCMP Heritage Centre** to offer municipalities a unique chance to recognize that partnership and demonstrate their support for the people who serve their communities every day by purchasing a brick along the Princess Royal Walkway at the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina. The bricks will be part of a SUMA mural to be unveiled in 2027.

By purchasing a brick, municipalities can "stake their claim" on this national landmark and celebrate the shared commitment between local governments and their RCMP detachments.

This is more than a contribution to a fundraising initiative. It is a visible and enduring expression of appreciation for the officers who serve as community partners, leaders, neighbours, and trusted protectors. Together, we can ensure their legacy of service and community connection is recognized for generations to come.

Read More and Learn How to Show Your Support

Municipal Voice: Fall 2026 Issue Now Available



The Fall 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 features articles on data centres in Saskatchewan, regional cooperation, the SUMA Golf Tournament, employee retention, participatory budgeting, and more. Plus, read about the Town of Delisle's first ever strategic plan!

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

Advocacy on Saskatchewan's Library System



On October 20, SUMA brought together a mix of elected officials from our board, caucuses, and interested members to discuss the current state of the library system in Saskatchewan. This meeting was a follow-up to our July Library Symposium, which brought together directors and board chairs from regional libraries across the province.

Attendees at the October meeting included representatives from municipalities of all sizes, from villages to cities, as well as representatives from municipalities that have libraries that are part of a regional library system and those that serve as their own regional hubs.

Two key issues were identified from this productive discussion:

- Regional libraries are not being adequately funded, pushing more and more costs onto municipalities.
- Municipal libraries of nearly every size serve as regional hubs that can draw people in far beyond the boundaries of the municipality hosting them, though that sole municipality and its residents bear the majority of the costs.

Our next steps will be to bring the two groups (elected and regional directors) together in a working group to identify and smooth out our asks of the provincial government. Stay tuned!

Connecting Across the Border



SUMA was pleased to gather virtually with the **League of Minnesota Cities** last month for an introductory meeting exploring ways we can learn from and collaborate with one another. Collaborations with similar organizations are a powerful tool in our advocacy.

SUMA's advocacy team was joined by LMC's Luke Fisher, Executive Director, Anne Finn, Chief Intergovernmental Relations Officer, and Daniel Lightfoot, Senior IGR Representative/Federal Relations Manager.

SUMA Supports SEDA's 2026 Paths to Prosperity Summit



SUMA was pleased to participate in **SEDA's 2026 Paths to Prosperity Provincial Summit,** reinforcing our engagement in community and economic development across Saskatchewan.

As a sponsor of the Community Influencer of the Year Award, SUMA was pleased to support the recognition of an individual making a valuable contribution to community and economic development. Gerald Aalbers, Ex-Officio Chair of SUMA's City Mayors Caucus, presented the award to Royce Pettyjohn.

SUMA's partnership with SEDA reflects the value of collaboration in advancing economic development knowledge, opportunities and outcomes for our membership. Congratulations to Royce Pettyjohn on this recognition.

RCMP Contract Negotiation Update

While negotiations remain stalled, municipalities should continue planning for future increases in RCMP policing costs.

SUMA members that are policed by the RCMP should keep in mind that **RCMP policing costs are projected to rise again** once collective bargaining concludes, potentially as early as next year. For municipalities that have **Municipal Police Service Agreements** (municipalities with populations over 5,000 policed by the RCMP), your multi-year financial plans (MYFPs) should already include an estimate of the impact of salary increases over the next five years to help with planning, but please note **the final agreement could result in increases above and beyond the estimated rate used in your MYFP**, as has happened in the past.

For municipalities that fall under the **Provincial Police Service Agreement** and are subject to the provincial police funding model, Government will consider impacts within the provincial police funding model once a new contract has been finalized. Please note that **the phased implementation of the 2026-27 increase should not be interpreted as predetermining the treatment of future cost changes**.

We encourage you to **contact SUMA with any questions, concerns, or feedback you may have**. Your input will help inform and strengthen our advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Community Safety on this matter.

Zebra Mussels and Aquatic Invasive Species Innovation Challenge

Innovation Saskatchewan, in partnership with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, organized the **2026 Innovation Challenge** to explore how technology could help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in Saskatchewan waters.

Advocacy Advisor Augustina Osaseri participated as a judge at the *Solutions Day* in Saskatoon on October 1, where applications proposing technology-based solutions were evaluated for their potential to address this environmental challenge.

The initiative focused on opportunities for technology to support early detection, risk assessment, and timely information sharing, helping protect Saskatchewan's waters and the communities that depend on them.

Advocacy on Urban Highway Connector Program

SUMA recently submitted a letter to the Minister of Highways, the Honourable Kim Gartner, regarding the Urban Highway Connector Program (UHCP). SUMA is asking for increased funding to the UHCP to ensure the program meets the growing needs of Saskatchewan's cities and requesting further engagement on the program.

Read the letter here.

Ride-Sharing Services in Municipalities

SUMA is starting to hear from more municipalities interested in exploring the allowance of ride-sharing services (Uber, Lyft, etc.) within their jurisdiction. However, many communities are experiencing challenges entering into licensing agreements with such services, often hearing of their desire for a provincial-wide agreement for all municipalities. SUMA has been working with SGI to find a way forward that allows municipalities interested in allowing ride-sharing services to do so. SGI has indicated that consultation with municipalities is planned, and has committed to work with SUMA to advertise those opportunities via our communication channels.

If your community has interest in ride-sharing services, or has any information you think would be helpful to share, please contact Dustin Austman, Advocacy Advisor, at 306-525-4321 or advocacy3@suma.org.

Share Your Experience with Airport Runway Extensions

SUMA is looking to hear from communities with airports that have been in contact with officials from the Ministry of Highways and/or Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement in regards to the upgrading of the air ambulance fleet. There have been concerns that upgrading to larger airplanes may require extensions of some runways across the province. While nothing has been confirmed to date, we are looking to hear from individual communities regarding their experience.

Please contact Dustin Austman, Advocacy Advisor, at advocacy3@suma.org or 306-525-4321.

Capacity Building Opportunities



Webinar: Using the Sustainable Development Goals to Advance Our Local Agendas

In 2015, world leaders adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an ambitious vision to guide global action on the urgent economic, social, and environmental challenges facing our planet. Since their adoption, the SDGs have increasingly gained attention from municipal leaders as a useful way to connect municipal and community efforts around shared sustainability goals. Municipalities from around the world have used the SDGs to help make local sustainability efforts more comprehensive and coordinated.

While it is well understood that for the SDGs to be successful we must 'localize' them, they do not offer much direction on how to operationalize or integrate them into institutional or corporate processes. In the municipal context, this means finding ways to integrate the SDGs into governance, planning, budgeting, and program implementation.

Join us on **Thursday, November 5 at 10:00 a.m.** for the webinar ***Using the Sustainable Development Goals to Advance Our Local Agendas*** to learn more about the SDGs, how municipalities around the world are finding value in using them, and opportunities for Canadian municipalities to use the SDGs to advance local agendas.

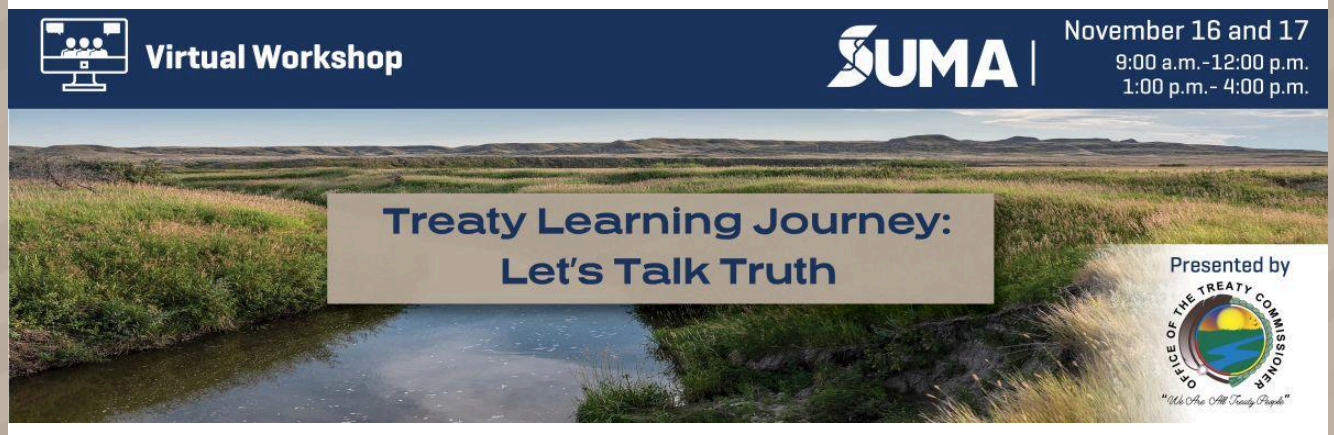
Learn more at www.local-futures.ca.

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.

Register Now

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by

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Strengthen Your Understanding of Treaty Relationships

You're invited to participate in the ***Treaty Learning Journey: Let's Talk Truth (TLJ)*** facilitated by the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) on **November 16** and **17**. Tailored to SUMA members and municipalities in Saskatchewan, this two-day virtual training is designed to deepen participants' understanding of First Nations communities, Treaties, and our collective role in strengthening Treaty relationships.

Whether you are new to Treaty education or looking to deepen your understanding, the Treaty Learning Journey offers an important opportunity to learn, reflect, and engage in meaningful dialogue.

Mark your calendar for **November 16** and **17**, and join us for this valuable learning experience!

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

Register Now



MuniCast S11:E4 Check in with the Towns and Cities Caucus

Municipalities across Saskatchewan are facing many of the same challenges, but those challenges can look very different depending on the community.

In ***MuniCast S11:E4: Check in with the Towns and Cities Caucus***, we sit down with the Chairs of SUMA's Towns and Cities Caucuses and the Advocacy Advisors who support them to discuss what's top of mind for members and how those priorities are shaping SUMA's advocacy efforts. Dawn Kilmer, Cities Caucus Chair; Michelle McKenzie, Towns Caucus Chair; Harrison Andruschak, Advocacy Advisor for the Cities Caucus; and Augustina Osaseri, Advocacy Advisor for the Towns Caucus, share how member feedback informs SUMA's day-to-day work and helps strengthen municipalities' voice with provincial and federal governments.

As SUMA reaches the halfway point in the caucus term, this conversation provides an opportunity to reflect on the first two years of our updated governance model and the priorities that have emerged through this new structure. From infrastructure funding and rising costs to housing, homelessness, public safety, and increasing service demands, we explore the challenges municipalities are bringing forward and how SUMA is working to address them.

Tune in for a midway check-in on the caucus model, the shared and unique priorities of towns and cities, and how SUMA turns member feedback into meaningful advocacy that supports communities across Saskatchewan.

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: Spill the TEA

Tax enforcement is one of the many responsibilities' municipalities undertake, and understanding who is responsible for what throughout the process is important. Join us on **Thursday, November 26 at 10:00 a.m**. for the webinar ***Spill the TEA: Council vs Administrative Role in Tax Enforcement*** to explore the distinct roles of council and administration in the tax enforcement process. Participants will gain valuable insight into the importance of keeping those roles clearly defined to contribute to effective municipal governance.

This webinar is not a review of the manual or the administrative steps involved in carrying out tax enforcement. Instead, it will focus on clarifying the responsibilities of council and administration, strengthening their working relationship, and helping elected officials understand their role in supporting a fair, transparent, and legally compliant tax enforcement process.

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.

Register Now

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by

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Saskatchewan Municipal Awards: Nominations Open

Celebrate municipal innovation across Saskatchewan!

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards until **November 24** at **4:00 p.m.**

The awards shine a spotlight on municipally led projects that are enhancing communities through innovation, collaboration, and positive impact. Recognition is awarded for the province's top

municipal, rural municipal, and urban municipal initiatives. The Regional Cooperation Award also honours successful partnerships between urban and rural municipalities working together to achieve shared goals.

Have a project worth celebrating? Submit your nomination and share your municipality's success story.

Learn More and Nominate

CONVENTION 2027

Call for Resolutions at Convention

SUMA invites members to submit resolutions ahead of the 2027 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, from April 4 to 7.

Resolutions are an important way to bring forward issues confronting urban councils that require action by the provincial or federal government or another agency.

Members are encouraged to submit resolutions throughout the year, however, the deadline for receipt of council resolutions for Convention 2027 is January 31, 2027.

Before submitting, read SUMA's full Resolutions Policy here.

Read the Call for Resolutions and Learn How to Submit

Nominations Open for SUMA's Service Awards Program

Annually, the Board of Directors recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to outstanding service in the municipal field. SUMA is proud to honour individuals for their outstanding contributions to the development and prosperity of our communities and urban governments in Saskatchewan.

We have made some exciting changes to the Service Awards program for 2027!

- Updated eligbility for the Meritorious and Honourary Service awards to **begin at 20 years and reoccur every 10 thereafter.**
- New **"Excellence in Municipal Service" Award** to recognize those who have done exemplary work on the local level but may not have served on the provincial or federal levels.

Please note that the deadline to submit a nomination for the **Scoop Lewry** and **Excellence in Municipal Leadership Service Awards** is **November 26, 2026.**

The deadline to submit a nomination for the Honourary or Meritorious Service Awards is **January 3, 2027.**

Learn more or submit a nomination here.

OTHER UPDATES

Canada Post Xpresspost Label Price Increase for SUMA Members

SUMA recently advised members of an upcoming price increase for SUMA's Canada Post Xpresspost prepaid shipping labels as a direct result of a significant rise in Canada Post fuel

surcharges.

Effective November 1, 2026, prices per package of 25 labels are:

- 1.36 kg Labels: $528.75 per package
- 5 kg Labels: $727.75 per package

Order Shipping Labels

Since our last label purchase, the fuel surcharge applied to Xpresspost labels has increased from **18.5% to 42.9%**, representing a **131.89% increase**. *Please note: The fuel surcharge rates are updated weekly; the rates included here are current as of this update.*

As a result of these substantial increases in shipping costs, SUMA must adjust the pricing of our prepaid Xpresspost labels. While this increase is significant, SUMA's pricing continues to provide members with savings compared to purchasing similar quantities directly from Canada Post.

We recognize that rising costs are challenging for municipalities across Saskatchewan. We remain committed to offering members cost-effective purchasing options wherever possible and are providing advance notice so you can plan accordingly.

For more information regarding Canada Post fuel surcharges, please visit the Canada Post fuel surcharge information page.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

If you have any questions, please contact SUMA at suma@suma.org or 306-525-3727.

Enhanced Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements Take Effect Nov. 1

Henry's Law takes effect on November 1, 2026, strengthening carbon monoxide (CO) alarm requirements for all multi-unit residential buildings in Saskatchewan.

Announced earlier this year, Henry's Law expands existing CO requirements by mandating alarms in all residential suites, regardless of their proximity to fuel-burning appliances within a building. Saskatchewan implemented one of the nation's strongest CO alarm requirements in 2022 and Henry's Law is the latest addition to keep residents safe.

More information on CO alarm requirements, visit: henryslaw.ca.

Training for Community Safety Officers

Saskatchewan Polytechnic and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice have partnered to offer specialized training for Community Safety Officers (CSOs). Employed directly by a municipality or First Nation, CSOs are appointed as special constables to deliver high-priority, low-risk enforcement services.

Key Program Highlights:

- **Statutory Enforcement:** CSOs are authorized to enforce selected provincial statutes.
- **Supportive Duties:** Responsibilities include attending property offense scenes to receive information, conducting preliminary assessments, and liaising with the police agency of jurisdiction as required.
- **Complementary Presence:** CSOs do not replace your primary police service; instead, they provide a trusted, visible local presence through uniformed officers who know your community.
- **Cost-Effective Training:** The comprehensive training program spans just six weeks, significantly reducing financial barriers for communities seeking to establish an additional local presence.

For more information or to apply, please contact Audrey Dore, Program Manager, Policy and Governance Provincial Protective Services Branch, Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety at audrey.dore@gov.sk.ca.

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 is pleased to announce a new competitively solicited and publicly awarded contract RFSO 26-05 for Heavy Equipment and Related Services awarded to Westvac Industrial, Multihog, Humdinger Equipment, and Heat Design Equipment. Whether you need heavy equipment or ongoing maintenance and services, our awarded supplier partners have you covered.

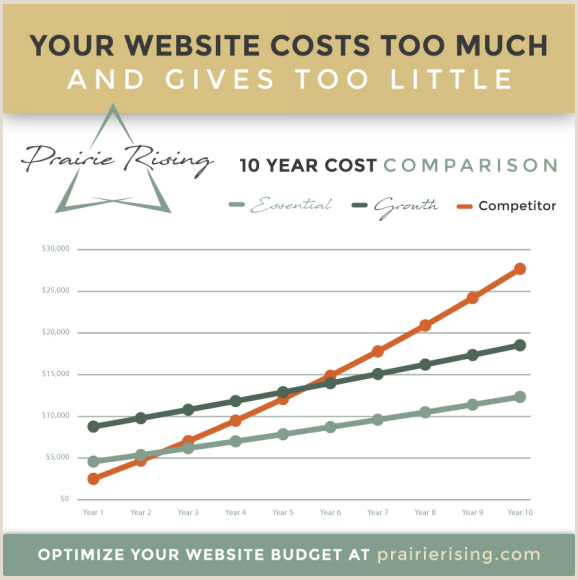
We are also pleased to announce a new competitively bid contract **RFSO 25-18** for **Hazardous Waste Cleanup and Disaster Recovery** awarded to ServiceMaster Restore, First Onsite, and Complex Claims Restoration.

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.

Websites Built Right the First Time and Cheaper Every Year After

Some municipal website platforms look affordable at signing, then raise their fees 6% every year. Over a decade, that adds up. A **Prairie Rising** website costs more to set up and less to own, saving your municipality up to $14,500 over 10 years.



Every site runs on a modern platform that's quick for staff to update and offers unlimited design options to help your community stand out.

It does more than post bylaws and events. Each site is built for marketing and economic development, with unique landing pages tailored to attract residents, businesses, and investment. When you need help, you'll talk directly to real people who have actually run prairie municipalities and know what a small office juggles day to day.

Less cost. Less staff time. A community that stands out.

Optimize your website budget today. Visit www.prairierising.com/website-design to see what the next level in municipal websites looks like.

Contact:
Nathaniel Puffalt, nathaniel@prairierising.com or 306-481-4883

CLASSIFIEDS

Positions Available:

- Town of Lanigan: *Director of Operations* (November 30, 2026)
- Resort Village of Manitou Beach: *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.

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