

# MUNICIPAL Update

July 17, 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 18, 2023**

Webinar: Building Stronger Councils: Developing a Family Leave Policy for Council Members

**July 19, 2023**

MuniCast Season 5, Episode 1: Truth, Law, and Reconciliation with John Stefaniuk, K.C.

**August 15, 2023**

Webinar: Asset Management Saskatchewan

**August 17-18, 2023**

SUMA Mayors' Summit

See all [upcoming events](#).



## Building Stronger Councils: Developing a Family Leave Policy for Council Members

Family leave policies for councillors are a very recent phenomenon. On **Tuesday July 18th at 12:00 PM**, learn how family leave policies can support and strengthen councils. This webinar will discuss **best practices and different approaches in developing family leave policies**. We will also share resources, such as the newest SUMA family leave policy template, currently in development.

If you can't make it to the live event, don't worry! A recording will be sent out to all registrants. All webinar recordings are also available on the [SUMA member portal](#).

Register for the  
webinar



Saskatchewan Parks  
and Recreation  
Association

Facility Leaders Forum

## Register for the SUMA Mayors' Summit!

Register for the **SUMA Mayors' Summit** exclusively for **Saskatchewan mayors!**

Join us on **August 17 and 18** at the **Atlas° hotel**, or **virtually via Zoom**, for this unique opportunity to connect with other Saskatchewan Mayors.

*If your municipality's Mayor is unable to attend, your Deputy Mayor is welcome to attend in their place.*

[Learn more here](#)

SUMA Mayors' Summit is sponsored by



Enhance the skills of your recreation staff by attending this comprehensive training event happening **September 11-15, 2023** in Moose Jaw, SK.

Hosted by the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association, the Forum offers a variety of **practical and hands-on training** that ranges from **arena operations and asset management, to human resource courses** to get your recreation facilities ready for the season ahead.

[Learn more here](#)

Registration is open until **September 5**.

## CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund and Education Session

Canada's Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, the Honourable Ahmed Hussen, announced the opening of the **Housing Accelerator Fund application portal, which will remain open until August 18th, 2023, at 11:59 PM EST**. You can access it [here](#).



If you're curious about how to use the HAF application portal to submit an application, there will be **information sessions offered on July 13 and 18**, covering those topics. You can register for a session at [cmhc.ca](#). Additionally, there is an **application guide on the CHMC website** to help you effectively navigate the application submission process and portal.



## Water Security Agency Expands Support

The Water Security Agency (WSA) is **expanding its support to help rural landowners, communities, and local governments complete channel clearing and drainage project maintenance** in Saskatchewan.

Up to **\$1 million is available** as part of a cost share rebate for individual landowners, rural and small urban municipalities, conservation and development area authorities (C&Ds) and watershed associations. For the

first time, **as a proactive flood mitigation measure, individual landowners and small urban municipalities (population under 5,000) are eligible for funding as part of this program.**

The **deadline to apply for the rebate is January 31, 2024**. For more information on the program and how to apply please visit [wsask.ca](#)

## Amendments to Sask Liquor and Gaming Acts

Recently, the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA) **made amendments to two acts: *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act 1997 (AGRA) and The Alcohol Control Regulations, 2016 (ACR).***

The amendments to the two acts cover the following issues: **consumption of liquor in public places, providing notice regarding liquor manufacturing facilities in communities without previous liquor permitted establishments, and clarifying that municipalities can reduce the hours of operation for businesses holding liquor permits.**



Under one of the amendments to AGRA, which came into effect May 23, 2023, **municipalities will have the discretion to pass bylaws designating public outdoor areas for consumption of alcohol.** As well, municipalities can decide whether the change will be on a permanent basis or will run as a pilot project. This ability is one of the many brought about by the changes to the two acts. For a full list of details on the amendments and their implications, please click [here](#).



## The Environmental Management and Protection Act

The Ministry of Environment has initiated a **review of The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010** (the Act). The Act **provides a framework for the management and protection of the environment in Saskatchewan, and establishes provisions for air quality, waste management, pollution prevention and enforcement measures.**

**The ministry is seeking input and suggestions on improving the Act and intends to identify and address critical gaps within the legislation.** Throughout the legislative review, the ministry intends on engaging Indigenous communities and stakeholders. **The process is currently in phase one of the engagement** – they have drafted a discussion paper to provide background information on the Act, outline key areas under consideration and provide questions for feedback.

Your views on the amendments to the Act are important, and we encourage you to provide feedback by **August 25**. The discussion paper can be found on the Government of Saskatchewan's **Public Engagement webpage**.



## Laurent Mougeot Memorial Scholarship

Announced at the 2023 SUMA Convention, the Laurent Mougeot Memorial Scholarship is directed toward students in the **municipal administration program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic.**

The scholarship honours former SUMA CEO, the late Laurent Mougeot's, impressive career in municipal administration and governance. Encouraged by this initiative, **we hope students forge careers in municipal administration and government.**

## ADVOCACY UPDATES

### Immigration Roundtable with Minister Fraser

On June 20, SUMA President Randy Goulden participated in a roundtable meeting with the Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship, Sean Fraser, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, **to discuss immigration growth in smaller and mid-size communities across Saskatchewan**. SUMA's belief has always been that **immigration growth is key to economic development in our communities**, because the experience, diverse skill set, and knowledge newcomers bring contributes to sustainable growth and multiple tax bases. As such municipalities are keen to participate directly in the immigration process through the Municipal Nominee Program.



In 2019, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) was mandated to introduce the Municipal Nominee Program (MNP). SUMA participated in the IRCC's 2020 stakeholders' consultation about the proposed MNP in support of seeing the program come to fruition. However, the program hasn't moved past the introductory stage.

As we persist in supporting the MNP with the goal of seeing it put into practice, it is vital that SUMA and other local government experts continue to be included in the conversation. **SUMA will continue to work with IRCC as partners in building diverse communities that benefit our municipalities and encourage immigration to our hometowns.**

### Meeting with MLA Erika Ritchie

On July 14, SUMA Director of Advocacy Services, Sean McKenzie, met with Erika Ritchie, MLA for Saskatoon Nutana, to discuss the many issues SUMA is currently advocating the Government to change and improve.

At the forefront of the conversation were our most pressing advocacy issues: **mental health and addictions; primary health care and the retention of health care professionals; the need for more revenue streams to support municipalities; PST on construction and inflationary pressures on infrastructure spending.**



As SUMA is a non-partisan organization, **we will continue to welcome and hold conversations with all parties in the effort to create better living conditions** for all of Saskatchewan's hometowns.

## CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



## Classifieds

### Positions Available:

- Town of Eston: Public Works Director (Foreman) (July 23)
- Town of Grenfell: Director of Recreation, Culture and Promotion (July 28)
- Town of Langenberg: Director of Sport, Leisure, Culture and Promotions (when filled)
- Village of Paradise Hill: Public Works Assistant (Sept 1)
- John Howard Society of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Integrated Youth Services: Call for Proposals for Local Youth Hubs

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:

- Infrastructure Canada *Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund* (July 19)

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