

MUNICIPAL Update

August 10, 2020



Keeping COVID in the
Penalty Box:
Safely Re-opening
Recreation Sites.

Webinar sponsored by  SUMAssure
Partnership and Ownership
for Urban Municipalities



Are you looking to keep COVID-19 in the penalty box so your residents can engage in sports activities safely? Municipalities of Saskatchewan is partnering with the Ministry of Health to bring you information and answer your questions on re-opening fall and winter recreation sites such as rinks and indoor community centers.

On **August 18 at 10:00 a.m.**, join us for the webinar *Keeping COVID in the Penalty Box: Safely Re-opening Recreational Sites* and ask your re-opening questions. This webinar will also review the guidelines for recreation facilities to ensure residents can enjoy recreation in your community in a safe manner.

Joining us for this webinar will be:

- Dr. Saqib Shahab, Chief Medical Health Officer for the Province of Saskatchewan
- Wayne Johnson, Environmental Health Consultant

[Register for the webinar](#)

Changes to *The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations*

Amendments have been introduced to *The Statements of Provincial Interest Regulations*. On July 16, amendments to the regulations were approved and filed with the Registrar of Regulations. The amendments will come into effect on **January 1, 2021**.

Amendments to the regulations are designed to:

- Improve predictability of agricultural activities in Saskatchewan;
- Strengthen relationships between municipalities, and First Nations and Métis communities; and
- Encourage regional planning.

The amendments also incorporate the topics of climate resilience, including mitigation and adaptation; economic growth; and community health and well-being.

See the **Changes Guide** for more information. Over the coming months, the Ministry of Government Relations will also update the **Planning Handbook**, which is the companion document to the regulations.



Virtual Sessions for Municipal Leaders and Residents

To encourage participation in municipal governance and increase understanding of what it means to be on council, Municipalities of Saskatchewan has created ***Municipal Governance 101***, a series of free virtual sessions designed for anyone who has an interest in municipal politics or who is thinking of running for council in the upcoming municipal elections.

Municipal Governance 101 for Northern Municipalities

Tomorrow at 11:30 a.m., Municipalities of Saskatchewan is hosting Municipal Governance 101: Northern Municipalities. This session is designed specifically for residents from northern municipalities and will include a presentation from the Ministry of Government Relations and an open forum.

Register for Municipal Governance 101: Northern Municipalities

City, Town, and Village Sessions

On **September 1** in ***Municipal Governance 101: Introduction to Local Government***, learn about the role of council, what your responsibilities are as a councillor, and more.

Register for Municipal Governance 101: Introduction to Local Government

Then on **September 8, 9, and 10**, Municipalities of Saskatchewan is hosting three separate sessions where residents from cities, towns, and villages can ask a panel of individuals experienced in municipal governance their questions.

Register for Municipal Governance 101: City Hall

Register for Municipal Governance 101: Town Hall

Register for Municipal Governance 101: Village Hall

Municipalities are encouraged to invite residents in their community to attend these virtual sessions.



PLANet for MEPP Members

The Public Employees Benefits Agency is introducing PLANet, the new online pension administration system for Municipal Employees Pension Plan (MEPP) members and employers.

The new online member portal of PLANet is designed to provide MEPP members with secure access to up-to-date information regarding their pension.

With PLANet, members have the ability to:

- Update their personal information quickly and easily online;
- View their latest MEPP Pension Statement online; and
- Directly access MORE, the online retirement calculator.

This phase of PLANet will be available to active MEPP members.

Excited to start using PLANet? Information on how to access PLANet will be sent out – watch your mailboxes.

MEPP pensioners, stay tuned for information on when you too will have access.

[Read more.](#)



Positive Aging in Saskatchewan

In 2019, Municipalities of Saskatchewan members passed a [resolution](#) indicating that municipalities advocate the provincial government to immediately begin developing a comprehensive seniors' strategy. All that has happened since that time emphasizes the need for a plan that gives direction for future provincial government policies and financial investment.

The Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM) has continued to work towards promoting awareness and interest in its research-backed campaign for support for older adults (55+) in all communities (developing a Seniors Strategy).

[Read more about positive aging in Saskatchewan from the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism.](#)

More information and usable resources can be downloaded from the [SSM website](#) under Strategizing for Positive Aging.



Filling the Affordable Rental Housing Gap

The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) is accepting Requests for Expression of Interest



Sample Bylaw for Mail-in Ballots

The Ministry of Government Relations has created a [sample bylaw](#) as a guide for municipalities wanting to

(EOI) for innovative and effective solutions or projects to address current and upcoming affordable rental housing gaps in communities across Saskatchewan.

Do you have an idea? Check out the [EOI document](#). Also check out the [frequently asked questions document](#) for more information.

The closing date is **August 31**.

establish a mail-in ballot voting system.

The ministry has also prepared a [question and answer](#) document to help municipalities gain a stronger understanding of the sample mail-in ballot bylaw.

Events



Upcoming Events

Municipal Governance 101: Northern Municipalities
August 11

Municipalities of Saskatchewan Webinar: Keeping COVID in the Penalty Box - Safely Re-opening Recreational Sites
August 18

Municipal Governance 101: Introduction to Local Government
September 1

Municipal Governance 101: City Hall
September 8

Municipal Governance 101: Town Hall
September 9

Municipal Governance 101: Village Hall
September 10

Event Insight

We're working on our webinar line-up for the fall, and we want to know:

What webinar topic most interests you?

Police transparency

Select

Single-use plastics

Select

Working with Indigenous communities

Select

Municipalities of Saskatchewan advocacy update

Select

Is there a webinar topic you would like to see?
Email your idea to **Shawn Wiskar, Advocacy Advisor**.

Convention



Submit Your SMA Nomination Before Nominations Close Next Month

Is your municipality doing something new, innovative, ahead of the curve? Are you working with neighbouring municipalities?

Celebrate the success, innovation, and excellence in your municipality with a [nomination for the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards \(SMA\)](#).

Nominations are being accepted until **September 4**.

Classifieds and Grants



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Town of Gravelbourg: *CEO* (August 17)
- Town of Cupar: *Administrator* (August 24)
- Village of Glaslyn: *Maintenance Position* (August 31)
- Village of Maryfield: *Administrator* (September 17)
- Town of Osler: *Assistant Administrator* (When filled)
- Town of Whitewood: *Working Foreman/Supervisor* (When filled)
- Town of Eston: *Assistant Administrative* (When filled)



Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- SGI *Traffic Safety Fund* (September 24)
- Community Initiatives Fund *Community Grant Program* (October 1)
- SGI *Community Grant Program* (October 31)
- Richardson International Ltd. *Community Donations* (Year round)

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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