

# MUNICIPAL Update

December 2, 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December 4

Webinar - Building Not-for-Profit  
Childcare Centres: The Role of  
Co-operatives in Supporting  
Saskatchewan's Municipalities

### December 11

MuniCast - S7:E5 Municipal  
Networking with the Municipal  
Peer Network

### December 12

Webinar - Ethical Leadership:  
Managing Conflicts of Interest

### January 21

Municipal Leaders' Roles and  
Responsibilities - Prince Albert

### January 23

Municipal Leaders' Roles and  
Responsibilities - Moose Jaw

See all [upcoming events](#).

## Did you miss our latest webinar?

Our latest webinar ***Council Table 101: Exercise governance basics and strong council meeting etiquette*** is a great resource for newly elected and re-elected officials. See pre-recorded videos of volunteers championing assigned profiles in a council meeting simulation demonstrating professional council meeting etiquette and respectful dialogue among officials. This webinar covers how diverse opinions add value to the decision-making process, considerations when participating during meetings with confidence and respect, ways to be more persuasive and effective council members, and how to recognize and address conflict at the council table. This webinar presented by SAGE Analytics reinforces good groundwork for governance deliberations, and it doubles as an excellent council orientation teambuilding opportunity.

Access all past webinars on the [SUMA member portal](#). Contact your administrator for login information.

**Visit the SUMA member portal.**

## Important: Notice to Administration

SUMA does not have contact emails for all newly elected from your municipality. We ask that you **please share this newsletter and encourage them to subscribe** to the **Municipal Update** by using this [link](#), clicking on the link at the very bottom of the newsletter, or emailing [communications@suma.org](mailto:communications@suma.org). Thanks for your help.

## ADVOCACY UPDATE

**SUMA reacts to Throne Speech**

SUMA CEO Jean-Marc Nadeau attended the **Throne Speech** given by the province last week, and SUMA published a media release with our reaction to the promises made and steps taken by the government so far.

We've advocated the government for changes to policy that would improve affordability and quality of life in Saskatchewan's communities for some time, and while some of the promised items announced in the Throne Speech are a continuation from the last budget, others address some of the growing need for community-wide care. SUMA was pleased to see **continued commitment to the Municipal Revenue Sharing formula**, and the **increase in funding to the Community Rink Affordability Grant**. However, as mental health and addictions, and housing remain key advocacy issues for SUMA, **we hope to see more resources and funding allocated to community safety and healthcare** in the new year.

You can read the [media release here](#).

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## Multi-Material Stewardship Western Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Survey

The provincial government has approved the Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW) Household Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program Plan, which marks a transition to a **full extended producer responsibility (EPR) model**.

SUMA welcomes this model and appreciates the excellent work that MMSW is doing with the EPR program.

However, we realize the timeline set out for the transition is not realistic for all our members. As such, we have been advocating for an **extension of the EPR timeline to 2029**, or **funding support for municipalities that may not be able to adjust their existing contracts by 2027**.

To help shape the conversation and our advocacy plan, respond to the survey below.

[Take the survey.](#)

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## Resources for Newly Elected Officials

Congratulations to all those who have recently been elected or re-elected to serve as mayor or councillor in your community. It's an honour to be chosen by your fellow residents to serve your urban municipality, which comes with great responsibility. To those stepping away from municipal governance, thank you for your service, effort, and dedication to your community.

SUMA recognizes the unique challenges faced by urban municipalities, and is here to provide **tools and support to help ensure the next four years are as successful** as possible for you, your fellow council members, and your municipality as a whole.

To help you get started on the right foot, we have put together a **list of resources for elected officials**. These tools are useful whether it's your first term or tenth, so we encourage all elected officials to bookmark [this page](#) and revisit it often.

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## SUMA's Advocacy Following the 2024 Provincial Election

Congratulations to both the returning provincial government (the Saskatchewan Party), and the official opposition (the Saskatchewan New Democrats), on their wins during the 2024 Saskatchewan General Election. SUMA looks forward to the cooperative work ahead, and will soon be sitting down with Cabinet ministers to discuss matters important to our members. We will also

continue to advocate on the issues brought forth during our provincial election campaign:

### **Municipal Revenues**

Municipal governments are the orders of government closest to and most accessed by the public. Urban municipalities own 60 per cent of public infrastructure, such as roads, water, wastewater treatment, recreation, green spaces and fire halls, to name a few. To maintain these systems, municipalities must run balanced operating budgets. **Despite ever-increasing responsibilities, streams of funding available to municipalities have not increased**; municipalities still have only property taxes and grants from other orders of government to rely on for income.

Municipalities also want to see **simplified property assessments for property taxes, more funding for next generation infrastructure**, such as landfills, hospitals, and green infrastructure, and **support for municipal growth with opportunities to help retain newcomers**.

### **Municipal Responsibilities**

Municipalities work under regulations over which they have little control. For example, many of our communities are governed by *The Police Act 1991*, which no longer fits the needs or perception of public safety in the modern world. We want to see **holistic changes to the Act that will allow police to focus on enforcement, while including other professionals in cases where necessary to provide wrap-around care**.

Municipalities are also seeking support with **bylaw enforcement and prosecution through supports for education and by increasing the scope of fines that municipalities can add to tax rolls**.

SUMA wants to see **support for new technology and education concerning landfill closures, and support for the Municipal Eco-Action Centre**, which will help municipalities across the province navigate climate change and resilience plans through grassroots support and knowledge. Municipalities need programs and investments which will attract newcomers and help them settle and continue to live in urban communities.

### **Provincial Downloading**

Municipalities do not have the fiscal capacity to handle social services, housing, and shelters, nor should they be responsible for providing these basic needs, which fall inside the provincial government purview. However, time and again, municipalities are required to step in to relieve the stress their communities feel directly. The province must step up and provide better help to residents, or it will continue to cost municipalities time and resources they simply do not have. We have expressed our concerns over current **mental health and addictions policies and housing issues** regularly. In particular, **SIS and SAID need drastic improvements in order to be helpful to the people who require these services**.

The government must also take a firm stance on **climate change**, and provide **environmental leadership**. Saskatchewan is one of the few provinces in Canada without a wetland policy, which is necessary to ensure sustainable water management practices.

SUMA looks forward to the coming months, and will keep you up to date on progress on these files. If you would like to view SUMA's policies in brief, which addresses these issues and more, you can read them [here](#).

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## **2025 Resolutions Policy**

Resolutions are one way SUMA members can get their issues to the forefront of our advocacy efforts, and it's never too early to start thinking of those you might submit. Now is a good time to review the guidelines in the 2025 Resolutions Policy. You can access the document [here](#).

As is our policy, **only those resolutions that are absolutely critical and could not possibly have been included in the Convention package will be brought forward after the January 31 deadline**, and only then with justification for why it is both urgent and emergent. Any other late resolutions will be considered by the SUMA Board after Convention.

To read past resolutions visit our website [here](#).

# CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES



Webinar



12.04.24  
12:00-1:00 p.m.

## Building Not-For-Profit Childcare Centres: The Role of Co-operatives in Supporting Saskatchewan's Municipalities



Sponsored by



### Building Not-For-Profit Childcare Centres: The Role of Co-operatives in Supporting Saskatchewan's Municipalities

On **Wednesday December 4** at **12:00 p.m.** discover how to use co-operatives to create sustainable, community-driven not-for-profit childcare centres in Saskatchewan. In the webinar ***Building Not-For-Profit Childcare Centres: The Role of Co-operatives in Supporting Saskatchewan's Municipalities***, presenters from Co-operatives First will explore how municipalities can support and guide the creation of these centres without directly managing daily operations. We'll also cover how municipal capital investments can create long-term benefits for the community, and how co-operatives unite parents, municipalities, and other partners to ensure inclusive and effective governance.

[Register here.](#)

**SUMA's webinar program is  
sponsored by:**



SUMA webinars are free for all members to attend. Non-members can attend for \$45 plus GST.



Webinar



12.12.24  
10:00-11:00 a.m.

## Ethical Leadership: Managing Conflicts of Interest



Sponsored by



### Ethical Leadership: Managing Conflicts of Interest

Join us on **Thursday December 12** at **10:00 a.m.** for the webinar ***Ethical Leadership: Managing Conflicts of Interest***.

Knowing and following conflict of interest rules are the key to ethically leading your community. For newly elected municipal mayors and councils, understanding these guidelines is crucial to maintaining public trust and ensuring transparent decision-making. Join Steven Dribnenki K.C. of the City of Regina to learn best practices to avoid traps and deal with conflicts of interest.

[Register here.](#)

**SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by:**



**SUMA webinars are free for all members to attend. Non-members can attend for \$45 plus GST.**

### Need to Catch Up On a Webinar?

All webinar recordings are available on the **SUMA member portal**.

Each municipality has one shared login for the member portal that can be distributed to all staff and members of council. We encourage you to revisit or share previous webinars with other staff or elected officials. If you are unsure of your login information, please contact [communications2@suma.org](mailto:communications2@suma.org) for assistance.

[Visit the SUMA member portal.](#)



### MuniCast: Leadership Development with the Municipal Leadership Development Program

The **Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP)** was carefully designed to address the unique needs of municipal officials. This series of modules was exclusively developed for elected and appointed officials in Saskatchewan, including mayors, reeves, councillors, and municipal staff. The program aims to enhance leadership skills and strengthen local government leadership. In this conversation, **learn about the modules included** in this program, **the different ways modules are delivered, and the valuable benefits they offer** to both elected officials and municipal employees.

The MLDP is a joint partnership of SUMA, SARM, New North, RMAA, UMAAS, and the Ministry of Government Relations. The program seeks continuous feedback through the municipal associations regarding the education and training needs of municipalities.

MuniCast is available on all major podcast platforms including Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and YouTube.



## MLDP: Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities

***Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities (MLRR)*** is a required module within the Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP). These MLRR sessions are hosted by SUMA. This session will provide valuable information to newly elected officials about their roles and responsibilities as a council member. This session would also serve as a good refresher for returning elected officials. Participants will hear about the relationship between council and administration, running council meetings, municipal law, and the roles of SUMA and UMAAS.

The registration fee is \$100 + GST, lunch will be provided.

**January 21 Prince Albert**  
Art Hauser Centre  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Register here.](#)

**January 23 Moose Jaw**  
Moose Jaw Events Centre  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Register here.](#)

## Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP)

There are a total of six modules through the MLDP that participants can take to complete the full program. Additional modules currently open for registration are:

***Municipal Economic Development Fundamentals***  
December 10 - Virtual

***Strategic and Financial Planning for Municipalities***  
December 16 and 17 - Virtual

***Community and Land Use Planning***  
Offered virtually through Southeast College. Always available.



Municipal Leadership  
Development Program

For more information about these workshops, please visit the MLDP [website](#) or direct questions to the MLDP Administrator, Christina Berry, at [cberry@sarm.ca](mailto:cberry@sarm.ca).

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.



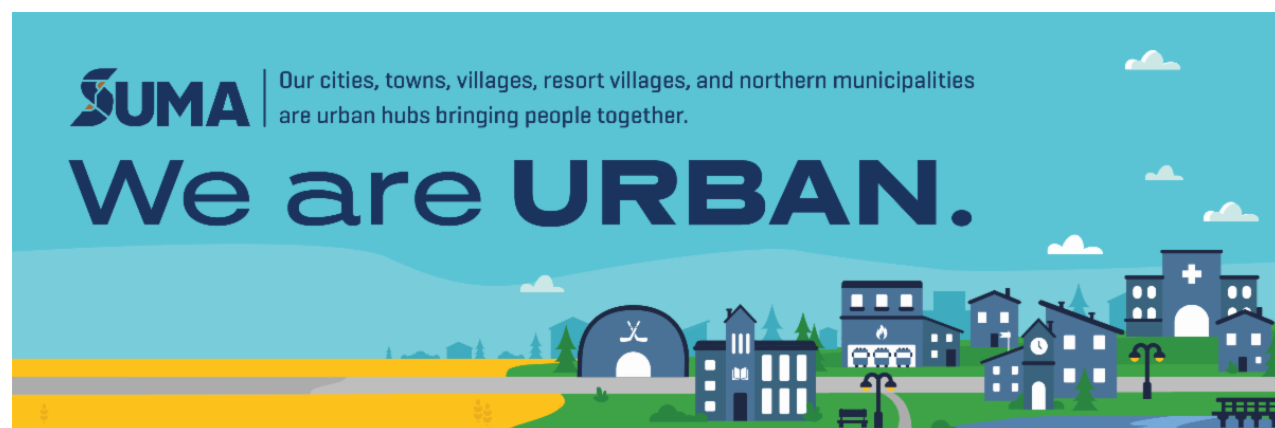
The [Meritorious Service Award](#) is granted to municipal employees in Saskatchewan urban municipalities who have served 20 years or more of employment. It recognizes their career success, dedication, and involvement in their local community.

The [Honorary Service Award](#) recognizes elected officials in Saskatchewan urban municipalities who have served 20 or more years on municipal council. It recognizes their long-term dedication to, and involvement in, their local communities.

Nominations will remain open until 12:01 a.m. on **January 6, 2025**.

[Submit a nomination here.](#)

## We are URBAN.



**Highlight your community** and **be part of the We are URBAN. campaign!**

**Share photos and videos** spotlighting your municipality. Don't forget to include a description, your location, and the name of your municipality.

Follow us on **Instagram** at [@suma.connect](#), and use the hashtag **#WeareURBAN** to share. You can also share directly on [memoryKPR](#) by using the QR code provided.

**Let's celebrate our municipalities and everything that makes them unique! We are URBAN.**



[Learn more about We are URBAN.](#)

## OTHER UPDATES

## Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Moves to a Continuous Process

**TSS will be moving to a continuous, rolling intake process.** All completed applications in the application system will be reviewed on the **spring closing date of April 30**, and **fall closing date of October 31**.

Please view the [intake guide](#) and [fact sheet](#), both of which outline the changes and updates to the program. The online application portal can be accessed [here](#).

## CSLA Webinar: Working with Nature as Normal

Joanna Eyquem will discuss progress and examples of efforts to mainstream consideration of **nature-based solutions to climate change**, ranging from strategic approaches and technical guidance, to integration in municipal management and financial reporting.

The webinar takes place Thursday, **December 12** at **2:00 p.m.** ET. Register [here](#).

## Grants Available for Facilitating Independence

**Facilitating Independence is a process that focuses on supporting older adults to live as independently** as they wish to, in their location of choice. The goal is to provide supportive services and options which allow older adults to live a meaningful and freely chosen life, in their home and community.

Grant funding was provided to 10 organizations in 2023 for projects that will be carried out in 2024. Based on the success of the first Facilitating Independence grant programs, the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM) has another **approximately \$200K in 2025 available for one-time funding for micro-grants/seed money** to organizations that serve older adults, community groups, or other interested organizations to develop/pilot new approaches for providing supportive services to older adults. Additional information on this opportunity including the application process, eligibility criteria, and timelines, is available on the SSM Website at: <https://skseniorsmechanism.ca>

Grant applications will be accepted by SSM until **December 10**. For information read this [document](#).

## Provide Feedback on the General 2024 Municipal Elections

Now that the 2024 Municipal Elections are over, Government Relations wants municipalities across Saskatchewan to **provide feedback through this survey**.

The province wants to hear about how municipalities set up their elections, the ways in which voters cast their ballots, what difficulties municipalities encountered, and anything else that may be relevant to improving the local election system. The results will provide a starting point for discussions with stakeholders regarding potential legislative and regulatory improvements.

The survey will be open until **December 31**. If you have any questions, please email [Regs@gov.sk.ca](mailto:Regs@gov.sk.ca).

## Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF)

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada has **launched its application intake for the \$1 billion direct delivery stream of the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF)**.

They are now accepting proposals from eligible applicants, such as municipalities and Indigenous communities, for projects with total eligible costs ranging between \$1 million and \$100 million, under a continuous intake stream while the intake remains open, until **March 31 at 3:00 pm ET**.

Projects may be pulled for assessment at various times during the intake period, with projects

being recommended for approval prior to the intake closing on **March 31** and on May 19 at 3:00 p.m. ET for Indigenous applicants.

In order to support Indigenous-led projects, at least 10 per cent of the funding envelope will be dedicated to eligible Indigenous recipients.

For more information, please consult these resources:

- [Applicant Guide](#)
- [Guide for Indigenous Applicants](#)
- [How to access the funding portal](#)
- [CHIF website](#)

Please feel free to direct any questions to the CHIF team at [chif-fcil@infcc.gc.ca](mailto:chif-fcil@infcc.gc.ca).

## Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency's CAR Signage Incentive Project

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) CAR Signage Incentive Project **aims to provide assistance with the cost of road name and civic address signage** for Saskatchewan communities.

The Civic Address Registry (CAR) program works with communities to **improve identification of property locations for 9-1-1 operators, dispatch services and emergency responders**. Communities that join CAR can participate in free training and access resources that locate properties more quickly and accurately. The CAR Signage Incentive Project also hopes to increase use of physical signage to assist in emergency response. There is no cost to participate in the CAR program or to apply for the incentive. The application form will be **available for submission starting November 21**.

Encourage community leaders to send their name and community name advising their interest in the incentive project to [car@gov.sk.ca](mailto:car@gov.sk.ca) by **December 31**. For more information on the CAR program, please visit [saskpublicsafety.ca/communities/car](http://saskpublicsafety.ca/communities/car).

To register for the CAR program and to complete the required training to qualify for the incentive, please go to: <https://www.saskaddress.ca/carloginrequest/home/signup>. For more information on the CAR Signage Incentive Project, please email [car@gov.sk.ca](mailto:car@gov.sk.ca) or contact Lisa Hall at (306) 519-2659.

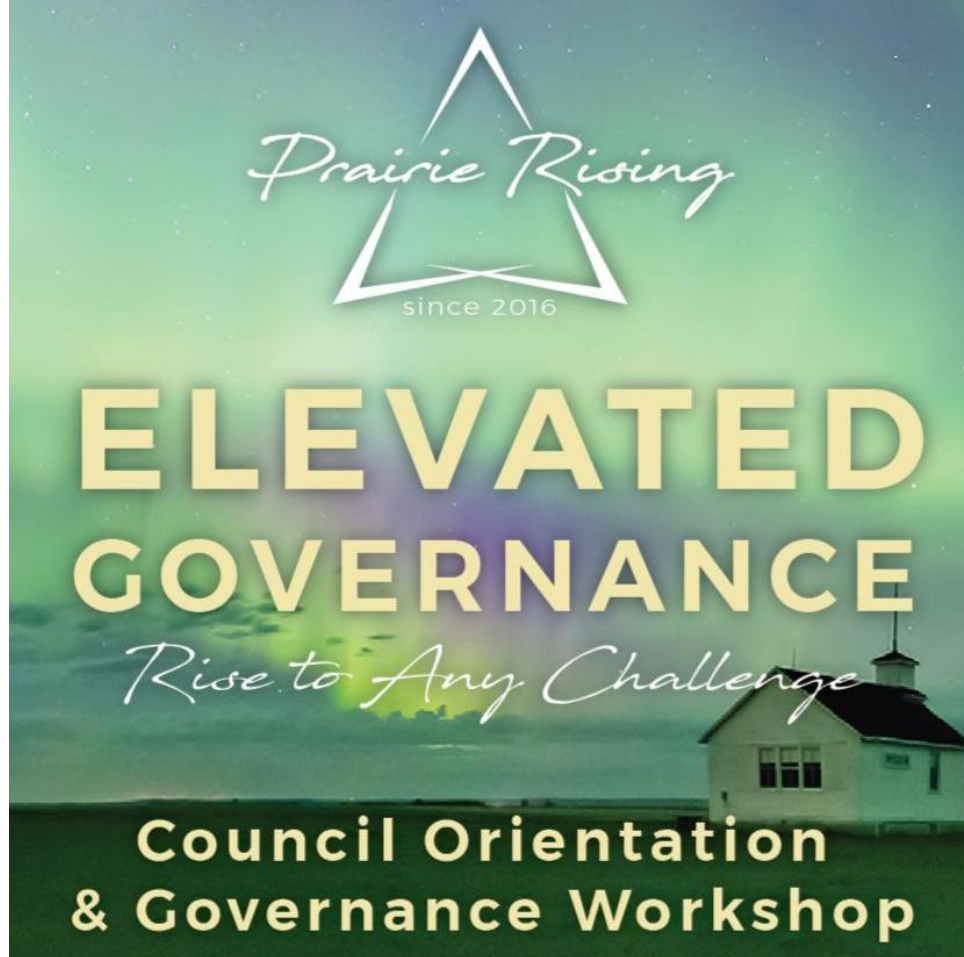
## Municipal Revenue Sharing Declaration of Eligibility

**Municipalities are required to annually report their compliance with eligibility requirements to receive their Municipal Revenue Sharing (MRS) grant** by completing an online Declaration of Eligibility (declaration). The unique link and password for the online declaration was emailed to each municipality on November 15. If you have not received it, please email [grcompliance@gov.sk.ca](mailto:grcompliance@gov.sk.ca).

The deadline for submission of the declaration is **January 31**. Please ensure it is submitted by the deadline to Government Relations, even if the municipality does not meet all eligibility requirements.

Please watch the [Declaration of Eligibility recorded webinar](#) and/or download the [Declaration of Eligibility Guide](#) and this [Eligibility Requirements infographic](#) to learn more.

## ADVERTISEMENTS



Elevated Governance is a cornerstone of thriving communities and now is the perfect time to equip new Councillors eager to make meaningful impact while refreshing incumbents poised for further contributions.

Our municipal experts will bring a memorable seminar to your municipality where your full council and senior staff have the opportunity to learn together. Using real-world examples and practical tools to elevate your council's governance, ensuring your team can Rise to meet any challenge.

We have over 80 years combined experience leading towns and cities throughout the Prairies, helping our councils achieve elevated levels of governance in the process. Sharpened with real-world municipal experience, our approaches can be applied successfully in any community, regardless of size.

Investing in our orientation services ensures that your council and staff are equipped with skills and knowledge to fulfill their mandates effectively, fostering a municipality that stands out.

Book [here](#) for Prairie Rising's Elevated Governance as a half-day session for \$2,500 or full day with strategic planning for \$5,000.

## CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



## Classifieds

### Positions Available:

- The Resort Village of Saskatchewan Beach: *Maintenance Worker* (Dec 6)
- Town of Qu'Appelle: *Chief Administrative Officer* (Dec 17)
- RM of Vanscoy No. 345: *Office Assistant* (Dec 20)

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:

- Saskatchewan Seniors  
Mechanism: *Grants for Facilitating Independence* (Dec 10)
- 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)
- CHIF Fund: *Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund* (March 31, 2025)
- TSS: *Targeted Sector Support Grant* (April 30, 2025)

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

SUMA | [suma.org](http://suma.org)

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