

MUNICIPAL Update

December 18, 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16

SUMA Virtual Sector Meeting

See all [upcoming events](#).

MuniCast Episode 4 Available Now!

In Episode 4 SUMA's Northern Regional Director and Councillor for the Northern Village of Île-à-la-Crosse, Gerald Roy, joins us for a conversation on **Reconciliation and Governance**. We discuss how northern municipalities are regularly engaging with neighbouring First Nations, economic growth in northern municipalities, and ways that municipalities throughout the province can engage in acts of reconciliation.



[Listen to MuniCast](#)

Season 5 of MuniCast is
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Sending you the warmest wishes this holiday season. In lieu of postage, SUMA has donated to Mobile Crisis Services.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Happy Holidays from SUMA

As we enter holiday season, we'd like to take a moment to highlight some of the year's advocacy efforts.

Mental health and addictions remained the cornerstone advocacy issue for SUMA in 2023, and many of our meetings with the province, internal discussions, media releases, and steps forward reflect SUMA's efforts in this area. Our media releases and videos on the topic, which garnered much media coverage, highlighted the **many issues connected to mental health and addictions, such as homelessness**.

Among other matters, we also drew focus toward the negative impact of **PST on construction projects** on municipalities. We shared our collected data on how our medium-sized municipalities return 24-39 per cent of their total Municipal Revenue Sharing grant back to the province in the form of PST on construction.

It was a busy year of bringing forth matters important to our hometowns, and we saw some results from our advocacy. **This year, our work pushed the province to acknowledge the widespread issue of mental health and addictions in the throne speech. The creation of the Action Plan for Mental Health and Addictions is a direct result of advocacy from SUMA**, as is some of the other services, such as the 500 new addictions treatment spaces across the province.

Going forward into 2024, **mental health and addictions will continue to be a cornerstone advocacy issue** as it effects so many of our municipalities. We look forward to further collaboration with various bodies of government to help strengthen our advocacy, so that our municipalities may continue to thrive and grow.

We wish everyone the happiest of holidays. See you in the new year!

Virtual SUMA Sector Meeting on January 16

SUMA Sector Meetings

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Join us online on **January 16** from **9:00 a.m.** to **3:45 p.m.** to discuss sector-specific issues with your peers and discover new ideas during the **SUMA Sector Meetings**. The Sector Meetings are open to representatives from all SUMA member municipalities. The cost to attend is \$40 per person.

Throughout the morning, we will hear brief updates on SUMA's governance review and advocacy work, updates from SUMA partners, and a keynote presentation from Laura Lawrence, a Saskatchewan author and educator. After lunch, we will break out into sectors to share your municipalities successes during Hometown Proud, take in an education session specifically designed for your sector, and discuss sector-relevant issues in an open forum.

Discussions at sector meetings are driven by members. **We encourage you to bring topics for discussion during the open forum.**

Access the meeting agenda [here](#).

[Register now](#)

Sector Meetings are sponsored by



SaskWater

CONVENTION 2024



reFRESH • reNEW • reFOCUS

2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow April 14-17 • Regina, SK

Registration Opening Soon!

Registration for Convention 2024 Opening January 15

The 2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow is happening **April 14-17** in **Regina**, and we're excited to say that registration for the event is opening **January 15**. Please watch your inbox for more information.

In conjunction with convention registration, you will be able to use our reservation system Resiada to reserve rooms for Convention 2024 beginning January 15.



Resolution Deadline is January 31

As the 2024 Convention and Tradeshow approaches, we encourage members to submit their resolutions. **The deadline to submit resolutions is January 31.**

Resolutions are a way to get municipal issues in front of provincial decision makers and the media, and help shape SUMA's advocacy. Before getting started, review the [Resolutions Policy](#), and see [past resolutions](#).

For more details and a template you can use as a guide, look at the [Call for Resolutions 2024](#) or login to the [member portal](#) for the same information.

Submit a Nomination for SUMA's Service Awards

Do you know a longstanding municipal employee or elected official? Celebrate them at Convention 2024 with a SUMA service award!

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.

The [Scoop Lewry Award](#) is presented in recognition of outstanding service in municipal government or administration, on a local, provincial, and national basis. Those eligible to be nominated are elected officials, administrators, SUMA officials, personnel in the Ministry of Government Relations, and personnel in First Nations and Métis Relations.

Nominations for SUMA's service awards are open until **January 4**. [Visit our website](#) to learn more.



2020 Construction Codes Will Take Effect January 1, 2024

Regulatory amendments to adopt the 2020 construction codes, along with Saskatchewan's amendments to those codes, will take effect on January 1, 2024. The construction codes are the National Building Code of Canada, the National Energy Code for Buildings, and the National Plumbing Code of Canada.

The edition of the construction code in effect when a permit was issued continues to apply to any work under that permit. For example, the 2015 codes will continue to apply to any projects for which a building permit was obtained on or before December 31, 2023. Any work for a permit issued on or after January 1, 2024, will be subject to the 2020 edition of that code.

The regulations, which include Saskatchewan's amendments to the codes, will be

Survey Invitation: Evaluation of Board of Revision Training and Certification

The Ministry of Government Relations is collaborating with the municipal sector to improve the first-level property assessment appeals process. In 2023, three out of four components of the Board of Revision Renewal Initiative were implemented.

One component is establishing an **Assessment Appeals System Advisory Committee** that is under development and close to completion. This committee will be made up of members who represent municipalities, administrators' associations, assessment providers and other stakeholders.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the training and certification component of the initiative and make continuous improvements to the property assessment appeals system, the ministry is inviting all secretaries and board members of certified local boards of revisions to complete a survey. **This survey will close on January 31, 2024.**

The ministry appreciates the participation in this survey to help ensure an efficient and effective property assessment appeal system. **Complete the survey [here](#).**

Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant — Declaration of Eligibility

The deadline for submission of the online Declaration of Eligibility is January 31, 2024. To help ensure your municipality's Municipal Revenue Sharing (MRS) grant is not withheld for 2024-25, be sure to submit the municipality's online Declaration of Eligibility and meet all eligibility requirements.

Please refer to the [Declaration of Eligibility Guide, Infographic](#) or the [Declaration of Eligibility Webinar](#) for additional information on the declaration process and the eligibility requirements.

The unique link and password for the online MRS grant Declaration of Eligibility was emailed to each municipality on **November 15**. Municipalities that did not receive the email should contact grcompliance@gov.sk.ca to request the information be re-sent.

A completed declaration requires a **resolution from council confirming the eligibility requirements that have been met**. The ministry does not require a certified copy of the resolution unless the municipality is selected for audit. Administrators who have not yet submitted the online declaration should **ensure the Declaration of Eligibility is on the December or January council meeting agenda for a resolution from council**.

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For more information on becoming a member, please contact kerriann@kineticgpo.ca.

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Village of Neudorf: Chief Administrative Officer (Dec 22)
- Municipality of Brenda-Waskada (Manitoba): Chief Administrative Officer (Dec 24)
- Town of Raymore: Chief Administrative Officer (Dec 28)
- Town of Raymore: Part-time Administrative Assistant (Dec 28)
- Town of Coronach: Town Foreman or Utility Operator (Dec 29)
- Town of Coronach: Regional Economic Development Resource Officer (Jan 6)
- City of Weyburn: City Clerk (Jan 7)
- City of Ituna: Chief Administrative Officer (Jan 8)
- Resort Village of Glen Harbour: Part-time Administrator (Jan 15)
- Town of White City: Manager of Finance (Jan 15)
- City of Battleford: Finance and Utility Clerk (Feb 6)
- Town of Battleford: Community Planner (Feb 7)
- Town of Battleford: Director of Corporate Services (Feb 7)



Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- Community Rink Affordability Program (Jan 15)
- Municipal Revenue Sharing -- Declaration of Eligibility (Jan 31)

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

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Find the latest listings by visiting the [classifieds](#) section of our website, under the Programs and Services tab.

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