

# MUNICIPAL Update

August 11, 2025

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### August 21-22

SUMA Mayors' Summer School

### September 17

Virtual Procurement Bootcamp  
for Urban Municipal  
Administrators

See all [upcoming events](#).

## More than \$1 Million Invested in 19 Municipal Projects

The Government of Saskatchewan is investing more than \$1 million in municipal projects through the **Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Initiative**.

The TSS Initiative supports joint municipal projects to assist in supporting more efficient and effective municipal service delivery through increased regional cooperation, capacity building, municipal corporate transition, relationship building, and dispute resolution. **Funding is provided through cost-shared grants, covering up to 75 per cent of eligible project costs, up to \$100,000.**

Examples of approved projects include:

- Lagoon expansion planning between the Town of Radisson and municipal partner the Battlefords Tribal Council.
- A training session for municipal bylaw enforcement between the Village of Kennedy and 17 municipal partners.
- Creating an updated emergency response plan with the R.M. of Argyle and two municipal partners.

SUMA administers the program and funding on behalf the TSS Steering Committee. The TSS Steering Committee consists of representatives from SUMA, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities (New North) and the Ministry of Government Relations.

"SUMA is grateful for the Government of Saskatchewan's continued investment in the Targeted Sector Support Initiative," SUMA President Randy Goulden said. "As development and service demands increase, this program plays a key role in helping municipalities work together to meet the

growing needs of our communities. We are proud to support the TSS program and celebrate the innovative municipal projects it makes possible."

Applications for TSS funding are being accepted on an ongoing basis. Learn more and apply [here](#).

Read the Government of Saskatchewan's full news release and find a link to the most recently approved TSS Projects [here](#).

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## ***Municipal Voice: Summer 2025 Issue Now Available***

The Summer 2025 issue of SUMA's magazine *Municipal Voice* is hot off the press! Print copies should be in our members' mailboxes now, or you can read the [digital version](#).

This issue focuses on the power of partnerships in amplifying SUMA's impact and developing innovative solutions to the challenges facing communities. We also recap the 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow; have a conversation about AI, privacy, and cybersecurity for municipalities; dive deep into best practices for respectful council meetings; and shine a light on the critical role of municipalities in addressing Canada's housing crisis.

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## **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](#)

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## **Reminder: Access to SUMA Member Portal**

**Recordings from the 2025 SUMA Regional Roadshow are now available!** Available to elected officials and administration from SUMA member municipalities, 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 and other relevant information 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](#)

## **ADVOCACY UPDATE**

### **SUMA Gathers with the Government of Saskatchewan and the Official Opposition**

SUMA is participating in the Saskatchewan Party's Northern Golf Classic tomorrow at Elk Ridge Resort, where we're looking forward to meeting with Saskatchewan Party Caucus Members and Cabinet Ministers.

Last week, SUMA joined Policy Discussion tables hosted by the Saskatchewan New Democrats in Prince Albert, where we discussed economy, crime, and safety with NDP MLAs and local leadership.

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## **Water Security Agency: Outcome-Based Compliance**

On August 6, SUMA met with the Water Security Agency to discuss an outcome-based compliance framework currently under development. The framework aims to improve service excellence in water management and promote sustainable water use, including drinking water, aquatic habitat protection, liquid domestic waste hauling, aquatic nuisance control, and water allocation. The outcome-based compliance framework will include standardized pathways with compliance actions that are proportionate to risk. The framework also deploys an adaptive strategy to ensure compliance is effective in achieving desired outcomes.

To learn more about the outcome-based compliance framework, click [here](#).

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## **Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3)**

Last week, SUMA met with Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) to discuss how an LC3 Board could be set up in Saskatchewan to potentially provide funding for environmentally conscious projects.

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## **E-Justice Platform**

On July 31, SUMA met with the Mayor of Elbow and former Deputy Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Glen Gardner, to learn more about the e-Justice platform that the Ministry of Justice has developed (but not yet implemented). E-Justice is an online dispute resolution platform that could potentially benefit urban municipalities through supporting bylaw enforcement, offering restorative justice approaches, and providing access to community services related to civil disputes and family law.

This approach is well-aligned with SUMA's advocacy focused on understanding and addressing root causes of justice issues, particularly related to preventative measures around homelessness, mental health, and addictions.

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## **Saskatchewan Ombudsman**

On July 29, SUMA visited the Saskatchewan Ombudsman to discuss educational opportunities for SUMA members and how the Ombudsman can assist and mediate.

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## **Communities in Transition**

SUMA met with Government Relations, SARM, and other partners to discuss Communities in Transition and the ongoing viability of smaller communities in Saskatchewan on July 24.

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## **EMS and Paramedic Services**

On July 21, SUMA met with EMS and Paramedic Services to discuss current concerns around recruitment and retention for EMS personnel.

## Fall Caucus Meetings Scheduled

Our second caucus meetings have been scheduled for the fall. At these meetings, SUMA will give updates on work that has been done over the summer on the priorities each caucus identified at the spring meetings. Your contributions to these meetings will inform our continued work on strategies to advocate on behalf of our members on these issues.

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

**Village/Resort Village Caucus:** September 3

**City Caucus:** September 4

**Town Caucus:** September 11

## CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES



09.17.25

9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators

## Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Municipal Administrators

Haven't had a chance to participate in the ***Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators***? Join us online on **September 17th** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** for this comprehensive workshop on urban municipal procurement. Participants will be guided through a wide array of procurement essentials, from uncovering best practices to understanding mandatory requirements, policies, and cooperative buying groups. This workshop will explore topics including INCO terms, competitive bidding laws, and truth and reconciliation actions. Facilitator Larry Berglund will also address illegal supplier practices, service level agreements, working effectively with elected officials, and more!

**This event will be held virtually and is open to administrators from SUMA member municipalities only. Space is limited so register soon to secure your spot.**

**Register now!**

Have you already participated in the Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators? We will be hosting "Part 2" virtually on **October 22**. Keep an eye on Municipal Update and member emails for more information.





## MuniCast: The Conversation Continues

MuniCast may be on a short break, but the journey through municipal governance doesn't stop here. Dive into past episodes filled with conversations about shaping the communities we live in. Tune in to real stories, thoughtful interviews, and powerful insights on leadership, education, reconciliation, and more. Whether you're a seasoned official or just curious about how local decisions impact everyday lives, there's something here for you. There are big changes coming for season 9 so hit play, get inspired, and be ready for what's next. MuniCast is available on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), [YouTube](#), and other major podcast platforms!

Listen now

## OTHER UPDATES

### Upcoming Courses in Saskatoon with Bloom Centre for Municipal Education

Bloom Centre for Municipal Education is offering two in-person courses in Saskatoon this October.

The **Municipal Leadership Workshop** is a two-day leadership workshop designed to equip municipal professionals with the critical skills needed to lead effectively in local government. The course covers leadership fundamentals, strategic leadership, influential leadership for driving change, conflict resolution, ethics, and organizational culture. Attendees will gain insights into public value leadership and strategies for improving relationships between administration, elected officials, and the public. Click [here](#) for an overview of the workshop and more information. **The Municipal Leadership Workshop takes place October 6th and 7th.**

The **Operating Budget and Long-Term Tax Strategy Course** provides municipal professionals with the essential skills needed to build and manage an effective operating budget while implementing long-term tax strategies. Participants will learn how to balance budgets, allocate resources efficiently, and implement priority-based budgeting methods. The course will also cover financial risk management, multi-year budget planning, and the key metrics needed to ensure fiscal sustainability. Click [here](#) for an overview of the course and more information. **The Operating Budget and Long-Term Tax Strategy Course takes place October 8th and 9th.**

Course fees are **\$950 per registrant for each course**. Group rates are available. Contact Bloom Centre for Municipal Education at <https://bloomcme.com/contact> for information on group rates.

Click here for more information and to register



## Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation (LLCA)

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities, through its Green Municipal Fund, has launched a new intake for the **Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation (LLCA)** funding program that supports the development of municipal climate adaptation plans, climate-focused asset management strategies, community-wide climate risk assessments, and capacity-building initiatives.

In the past year, **Eco-West Canada (EWC)** has successfully helped several municipalities in securing funding under this program and is now extending its support to communities in Saskatchewan. As a **partner of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and its new Municipal Eco-Action Centre**, EWC is well-positioned to assist Saskatchewan municipalities in navigating this opportunity.

To get started, municipalities will need to complete FCM's **Climate-Ready Communities Assessment Tool** — an important first step in the application process. EWC can help guide your municipality through this assessment and the full funding application process afterward.

The deadline to submit applications to the LLCA program is **September 16, 2025**.

If your municipality is interested in developing a climate adaptation plan and pursuing funding through this opportunity, please contact Eco-West Canada to learn how we can support you.

**Contact:** [spelletier@eco-ouest.com](mailto:spelletier@eco-ouest.com)

## Municipal Electric Vehicle Initiative (MEVi)

SUMA is proud to support **Eco-West Canada** and the **Municipal Eco-Action Centre** by bringing the **Municipal Electric Vehicle Initiative (MEVi)** to Saskatchewan to help communities plug in and power up.

Eligible applicants include:

- Municipalities
- Non-profits
- Indigenous businesses and communities
- Co-operatives
- Businesses

Up to 50% of project costs are covered, including:

- Up to \$5,000 per Level 2 charger
- Up to \$75,000 per fast charger

Whether you're planning chargers for your town hall, arena, or fleet, MEVi helps make your green infrastructure goals achievable. This program is about sustainability, accessibility, and long-term economic opportunity for Saskatchewan's communities.

Learn more and apply at [eco-ouest.com/municipal-electric-vehicle-initiative](https://eco-ouest.com/municipal-electric-vehicle-initiative).

Read our full press release [here](#).



[Eco-West.com](https://Eco-West.com)

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Canada*

*Financé partiellement par  
Ressources naturelles  
Canada*

**Canada**

## SASK120: Discount for SUMA Members

Celebrate 120 years of Saskatchewan's history, communities, and economy at a **dinner and reception at the Remail Modern in Saskatoon on September 4, 2025**.

SUMA is a proud sponsor of **Sask120**, presented by the Western Canada Economic Forum and partners.

SUMA members have a special **discount code** to access discounted tickets. Email [communications@suma.org](mailto:communications@suma.org) for the discount code, and purchase your tickets at [www.sask120.com/tickets](http://www.sask120.com/tickets).

To learn more about this exciting event, click **here**.

## BuildGreen Saskatchewan Conference: Empowering the Prairies with Sustainable Building Solutions

**Early Bird Online Registration** is now open for **BuildGreen Saskatchewan's 2025 Conference in Regina**.

Hosted collaboratively by the Regina and Saskatoon ASHRAE Chapters, this landmark building decarbonization conference will take place **November 12–13, 2025**, at the University of Regina, Main Campus.

As our climate evolves, the BuildGreen Saskatchewan Conference is tailored to create direct opportunities for sharing knowledge on building more resilient structures in Saskatchewan and the Prairies.

Over two days, the conference will offer chances for knowledge sharing, networking, and strategic collaboration through:

- Social and technical presentations
- Panel discussions and breakout sessions
- Keynote address by Ginger Scoggins, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, and ASHRAE Global Society President 2023-2024
- Vendor displays and a tradeshow

**Register here**

## Alcohol Policy in Canadian Municipalities: Webinar Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the **first two webinars** of the Canadian Alcohol Policy Evaluation program's upcoming series ***Alcohol Policy in Canadian Municipalities***.

### **Webinar 1: Introduction to Municipal Alcohol Policy**

Wednesday, September 3

9:30am PT | 12:30pm ET | 1:30pm AT

Register here: <https://uvic.zoom.us/join/YtuuFqN3RZSgUCBAmIQM-Q>

This webinar will introduce alcohol policy, why it matters, and what policy looks like at the various levels of government in Canada, with a focus on the role of municipal/local governments. Presenters will describe alcohol harms, costs and consumption data, and the rationale for policy approaches to reduce negative impacts. This session will introduce examples of local-level policies and strategies across Canada that have effectively balanced public safety concerns with community needs, as well as resources and tools available to help guide alcohol policy development and

advocacy.

## Webinar 2: A Legal Framework for Developing a Municipal Alcohol Policy

Thursday, September 11

9:00am PT | 12:00pm ET | 1:00pm AT

Register here: [https://uvic.zoom.us/meeting/register/BwzTmlEvQA2ggLaHt\\_jv0w](https://uvic.zoom.us/meeting/register/BwzTmlEvQA2ggLaHt_jv0w)

This webinar will explore the legal foundations for developing municipal alcohol policies. Provincial legal environments both empower and constrain municipalities. Presenters will describe the major powers commonly granted to municipalities, and provide examples of how these powers have been used to implement municipal alcohol policies in various jurisdictions across Canada.

Find out more about the webinar series here:

<https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/municipalalcohol/>

Contact [capecopcoord@uvic.ca](mailto:capecopcoord@uvic.ca) with any questions.

*This is an initiative of the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR) and the Canadian Alcohol Policy Evaluation Community of Practice (CAPE CoP) and is supported in part by funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.*

## Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund

The **Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (CAEH)** is now accepting Expressions of Interest for the **Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF)**, which provides one-time grants for innovative projects aimed at achieving measurable reductions in homelessness in communities.

HRIF grants will be distributed to communities for targeted, data-informed projects that measurably reduce homelessness. CAEH will offer one-on-one guidance and coaching to communities on their initiatives and share successful approaches with other communities across the country. The National Indigenous Homelessness Council may provide project support.

CAEH is currently seeking **Expressions of Interest until August 15 at 4pm Eastern**. Click [here](#) to learn more, sign up for updates, or submit an expression of interest.

## Call for Projects: Wildfire Resilient Buildings

With wildfire risks on the rise across Canada, the **Climate Ready Infrastructure Service (CRIS)** has launched a new stream of support to help local governments and Indigenous communities make public buildings safer and more resilient:

- **Communities under 30,000** can now access up to **\$20,000 in expert support**, fully funded and coordinated by the CRIS team.
- Support includes tailored advice on fire-resilient design, materials, and indoor air quality for design or retrofit projects approved in a capital or work plan.
- Eligible buildings include community centres, libraries, civic centres, water/wastewater facilities, fire halls, and more - submit your public infrastructure project!

The program output is a customized **Technical Options Report** with strategies and high-level cost estimates to help you determine the best-fitting solutions to incorporate wildfire resilience into the design or retrofit your infrastructure.

Click [here](#) to submit your project in as little as 10-15 minutes. For more information, visit [climatereadycanada.ca/how-to-register](https://climatereadycanada.ca/how-to-register) or read the **informational brochure**.

The CRIS is facilitated by the Canadian Urban Institute and funded by the Government of Canada.

## Reconciliation Needs: Surveys from the Office of the Treaty



## Commissioner

SUMA is supporting the **Office of the Treaty Commissioner** (OTC) in conducting **two surveys** to understand reconciliation needs in Saskatchewan.

### **Survey for Municipal Leadership and Staff**

The first survey is a **needs assessment relating to active and inactive Reconciliation Circles throughout Saskatchewan**. The purpose of this needs assessment is to determine how the OTC can best support the circles in collaboration with surrounding municipalities to advance Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations and Truth and Reconciliation in Saskatchewan.

This 5-10 minute survey is for **municipal leadership and staff**.

[Access the municipal leadership and staff survey here](#)

### **Survey for Community Members**

The second survey explores the **state of Truth and Reconciliation in Saskatchewan communities** as part of a broader effort to shape the OTC's strategy to advance good relations and the continuation of Reconciliation Circles throughout the province. This five minute survey is for **general community members**.

[Access the community members survey here](#)

Please answer the questions to the best of your ability; If you are unsure or do not wish to answer a question, please feel free to skip it. Your participation is **voluntary and anonymous**. Responses will be used by OTC for evaluation purposes only.

Please only complete the survey that is most applicable to you. **We encourage municipal leaders and staff to share the survey for general community members with their communities.**

If you have questions or concerns about this survey or about the Reconciliation Circles, please contact **Darrellyne Bickel, Director of Public Policy & Development**, at [dbickel@otc.ca](mailto:dbickel@otc.ca).

## Transition to Online Payments

SUMA is encouraging all municipalities to transition to online payments.

### **How to pay online**

To pay SUMA invoices, please set up SUMA as a bill payee with your financial institution.

SUMA is set up as a bill payee with the financial institutions below. *Please note:* We have expanded to more Saskatchewan Credit Unions through Central One Billers, so some municipalities that previously could not find SUMA as a bill payee with their banks may now be able to utilize this option.

Bank Name	SUMA's Registered Name	Biller/Vendor ID
CIBC	SUMA	000013770-13781
ScotiaBank	SASK URBAN MUN ASSOCIATION	655M-72134
BMO	SASKATCHEWAN URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION	22173165-65401

RBC	SUMA	16278
Credit Unions (through Credit Union Central)	SASK URBAN MUNICIPAL	14112
Credit Unions/Other (through Telepay)	SUMA	9809
Central One Billers	No info available	No info available

Once you find SUMA as a bill payee, you will need to set up two different accounts to pay as follows:

### SUMA's Group Benefits

In early December 2024, your office would have received an email communication outlining the option to pay your group benefit premiums online. This message included your unique online account number required to facilitate these payments.

To pay group benefit premiums, the account number will be 8 digits starting with GB##### (e.g., GB123456).

If you do not have your account number, please contact the Group Benefits Department directly.

### General SUMA Invoices

General SUMA invoices include all payments other than Group Benefits premiums, such as membership, VFF, Convention registration, education sessions registration, shipping labels, election and pet supplies, and more.

The account number to pay general SUMA invoices through online banking is found on the bottom right of invoices. It will be an 8-digit number starting with AR##### (e.g., AR123456).

## 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@peoplefirstthr.com](mailto:hroncall@peoplefirstthr.com)

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

**TSS has moved 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](#).

## ADVERTISEMENTS



# Kinetic GPO

**Kinetic GPO is pleased to announce a new competitively solicited and publicly awarded contract RFSO #24-13** for energy consulting and related services awarded to ECNG Energy Group. Whether you need carbon management, invoice management services or strategic energy procurement, [ECNG Energy Group](#) has you covered when it comes to energy management.

Utilizing cooperative contracts simplifies the procurement process, saves time and money, ensures compliance and makes purchasing seamless.

Kinetic GPO is also excited to announce a special offer to boost your municipal savings! **Enjoy a complimentary coffee and donut breakfast OR pizza party when you purchase from 5+ (breakfast) or 10+ (pizza party) Kinetic GPO contracts.** This promo runs now through December 31st. For additional information on this special offer, contact Nicole Wieser at [nicole@kineticgpo.ca](mailto:nicole@kineticgpo.ca).

**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](mailto:dana@kineticgpo.ca).

## CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



### Classifieds

#### Positions Available:

- [Town of Luseland](#): *Economic*



### Grants

#### Upcoming Deadlines:

- Saskatchewan Legion: *Veterans*

- *Development Officer* (August 11)
- [Town of Biggar](#): *Accounting Clerk* (August 15)
- [City of Moose Jaw](#): *Director of Community Services* (August 21)
- [Resort Village of West End](#): *Part-Time Administrator* (August 31)
- [Town of Watrous](#): *Administrator* (September 9)
- [Village of Richmond](#): *Administrator* (September 12)
- [Town of Qu'Appelle](#): *Assistant Public Works Foreman* (until filled)
- [Town of Grand Coulee](#): *Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)
- [Town of Wolsley](#): *Community Development Officer* (until filled)
- [Rural Municipality of Lacadena No. 228](#): *Full-Time Foreman* (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.

*Service Club Support Program* (August 31)

- SGI: *Provincial Traffic Safety Fund Grant* (September 30)
- 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)

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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