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# Who is SUMA?

The Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) is the provincial voice of urban municipal governments representing cities, towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities. We promote, protect, and defend the interests of our members.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

SUMA represents the collective strength of Saskatchewan communities in providing leadership in advocacy, education, and service excellence.

#### VISION

SUMA is recognized as the voice of Saskatchewan's communities/municipalities.

#### **VALUES**

- Independence: We believe in protecting strong local autonomy
- Member-focused: We are a member-driven organization and consider the interests of all urban sectors prior to making decisions
- Accountability: We are accountable for our actions internally and externally
- Innovative: We believe in providing innovative and valuedriven programs and services to our members
- Transparency: We take a fact-based approach to public policy
- Respectful: We respect each other, our members, and others that we work with



## Board of Directors 2022

SUMA is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of elected officials from all sectors and regions of the province.



RANDY GOULDEN President



GERALD AALBERS Vice-President of Cities



RENNIE HARPER Vice-President of Towns



MIKE STRACHAN
Vice-President of Villages,
Resort Villages,
and Northern Municipalities



RANDY DONAUER Executive Member, Saskatoon/Regina



RICHARD BECK Director Northwest Region



LORI BRESCIANI
Director
City of Regina



BEV DUBOIS Director City of Saskatoon



JIM GALLANT
Director
East Central Region

## Board of Directors 2022



BOB HAWKINS Director City of Regina



PATRICIA JACKSON Director Southeast Region



DAWN LUHNING Director City of Moose Jaw



BRYAN MATHESON Director Central Region



MICHELLE MCKENZIE Director Southwest Region



ROD PERKINS Director West Central Region



APRIL PHILLIPS
Director
Northeast Region



GERALD ROY
Director
Northern Region



TED ZURAKOWSKI
Director
City of Prince Albert

## **SUMA Members**

SUMA's strength lies in our membership. There are SUMA members in all provincial constituencies and all federal ridings. Representing communities of all sizes and all areas of the province, our members bring to the organization a wealth of knowledge, practical experience, and advice.

Membership in SUMA is voluntary and is open to cities, towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities.



DIRECTOR: Gerald Roy
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Jordan McPhail

#### **CITY AND TOWNS**

City of Flin Flon Town of Creighton Town of La Ronge

#### **NORTHERN HAMLETS**

Northern Hamlet of Stony Rapids Northern Hamlet of Weyakwin

#### **NORTHERN VILLAGES**

Northern Village of Air Ronge

Northern Village of Beauval

Northern Village of Buffalo Narrows

Northern Village of Cumberland House

Northern Village of Denare Beach

Northern Village of Green Lake

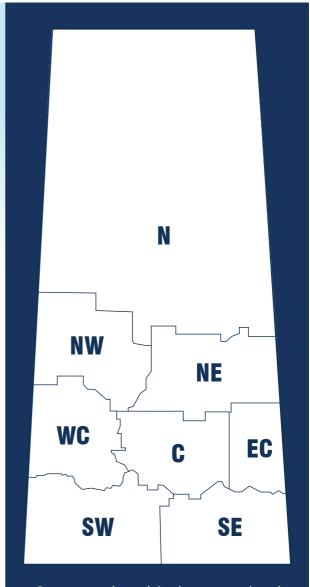
Northern Village of Île-à-la-Crosse

Northern Village of La Loche

Northern Village of Pelican Narrows

Northern Village of Pinehouse

Northern Village of Sandy Bay



Our membership is comprised of 12 regions; eight of which are divided geographically and cover larger spans of the province, and four of which are stand-alone cities.

City of Moose Jaw City of Prince Albert City of Regina City of Saskatoon





## NORTHWEST REGION

DIRECTOR: Richard Beck
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Jamie Martens

#### **CITIES**

City of Lloydminster City of Martensville City of Meadow Lake City of Warman

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Aquadeo
Resort Village of Chitek Lake
Resort Village of Cochin
Resort Village of Greig Lake
Resort Village of KivimaaMoonlight Bay
Resort Village of Metinota
Resort Village of Pebble Baye
Resort Village of Pelican Pointe
Resort Village of Turtle View

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Big River Town of Blaine Lake Town of Dalmeny Town of Duck Lake Town of Hafford
Town of Hague
Town of Hepburn
Town of Langham
Town of Lashburn
Town of Maidstone
Town of Marshall
Town of Osler
Town of Radisson
Town of Rosthern
Town of Shellbrook
Town of Spiritwood
Town of St. Walburg
Town of Turtleford
Town of Waldheim

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Borden Village of Canwood Village of Debden Village of Denholm Village of Dorintosh Village of Edam Village of Glaslyn Village of Goodsoil Village of Laird Village of Leask Village of Leoville Village of Loon Lake Village of Makwa Village of Marcelin Village of Marsden Village of Maymont Village of Medstead Village of Meota Village of Mervin Village of Neilburg Village of Paradise Hill Village of Parkside Village of Paynton Village of Pierceland Village of Shell Lake Village of Speers Village of Waseca





### NORTHEAST REGION

DIRECTOR: April Phillips
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Beth Baerwald

#### **CITIES**

City of Humboldt City of Melfort

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Candle Lake Resort Village of Elk Ridge Resort Village of Tobin Lake Resort Village of Wakaw Lake

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Aberdeen
Town of Arborfield
Town of Birch Hills
Town of Bruno
Town of Carrot River
Town of Choiceland
Town of Cudworth
Town of Hudson Bay
Town of Kelvington
Town of Kinistino
Town of Leroy
Town of Naicam
Town of Nipawin

Town of Porcupine Plain Town of Rose Valley Town of St. Brieux Town of Star City Town of Tisdale Town of Vonda Town of Wakaw Town of Watson

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Albertville
Village of Alvena
Village of Annaheim
Village of Archerwill
Village of Aylsham
Village of Beatty
Village of Bjorkdale
Village of Christopher
Lake Village of Codette
Village of Englefeld
Village of Fosston
Village of Lake Lenore

Village of Meath Park Village of Middle Lake Village of Mistatim Village of Muenster Village of Paddockwood Village of Pilger Village of Pleasantdale Village of Prud'homme Village of Quill Lake Village of Ridgedale Village of Smeaton Village of Spalding Village of St. Benedict Village of St. Gregor Village of St. Louis Village of Valparaiso Village of Weekes Village of Weirdale Village of Weldon Village of White Fox Village of Zenon Park

Village of Love





## WEST CENTRAL REGION

DIRECTOR: Rod Perkins
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: David Gillan

#### **CITIES**

City of North Battleford

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Coteau Beach

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Asquith
Town of Battleford
Town of Biggar
Town of Cut Knife
Town of Delisle
Town of Eatonia
Town of Elrose
Town of Eston
Town of Kerrobert
Town of Kindersley

Town of Kyle
Town of Luseland
Town of Macklin
Town of Outlook
Town of Rosetown
Town of Scott
Town of Unity
Town of Wilkie
Town of Zealandia

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Beechy Village of Brock Village of Broderick Village of Coleville Village of Conquest Village of Denzil

Village of Dodsland Village of Flaxcombe Village of Glenside Village of Harris Village of Kinley Village of Landis Village of Lucky Lake Village of Macrorie Village of Major Village of Milden Village of Netherhill Village of Perdue Village of Plenty Village of Smiley Village of Tessier Village of Tramping Lake Village of Vanscoy

Village of Dinsmore





### **CENTRAL REGION**

DIRECTOR: Bryan Matheson
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Brian Strong

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Alice Beach Resort Village of B-Say-Tah Resort Village of Chorney Beach Resort Village of Etters Beach Resort Village of Fort San Resort Village of Glen Harbour Resort Village of Grandview Beach Resort Village of Island View Resort Village of Kannata Valley District of Katepwa Resort Village of Manitou Beach Resort Village of Mistusinne Resort Village of Saskatchewan Beach Resort Village of Shields Resort Village of Sunset Cove Resort Village of Thode Resort Village of Wee Too Beach

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Allan Town of Balcarres Town of Balgonie Town of Colonsay Town of Craik Town of Cupar Town of Davidson Town of Dundurn Town of Foam Lake Town of Fort Qu'Appelle Town of Govan Town of Hanley Town of Imperial Town of Ituna Town of Lanigan Town of Lumsden Town of Nokomis Town of Pilot Butte Town of Raymore Town of Regina Beach Town of Southey Town of Strasbourg Town of Wadena **Town of Watrous** Town of White City Town of Wynyard

#### VILLAGES

Village of Abernethy Village of Aylesbury Village of Bethune Village of Bladworth Village of Brownlee Village of Buena Vista Village of Bulyea Village of Chamberlain Village of Clavet Village of Craven Village of Dilke Village of Disley Village of Drake Village of Dysart Village of Earl Grey Village of Edenwold Village of Elbow Village of Elfros Village of Eyebrow Village of Hawarden Village of Holdfast

Village of Kelliher Village of Kenaston Village of Lebret Village of Leross Village of Liberty Village of Lipton Village of Loreburn Village of Markinch Village of Meacham Village of Plunkett Village of Punnichy Village of Quinton Village of Semans Village of Silton Village of Simpson Village of Strongfield Village of Tugaske Village of Viscount Village of Young Village of Zelma

Village of Jansen





### EAST CENTRAL REGION

DIRECTOR: Jim Gallant
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Nancy Brunt

#### **CITIES**

City of Melville City of Yorkton

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Bird's Point Resort Village of Melville Beach Resort Village of West End

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Bredenbury
Town of Canora
Town of Churchbridge
Town of Esterhazy
Town of Kamsack
Town of Langenburg
Town of Lemberg
Town of Norquay

Town of Preeceville Town of Saltcoats Town of Springside Town of Sturgis

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Arran
Village of Atwater
Village of Bangor
Village of Buchanan
Village of Calder
Village of Dubuc
Village of Duff
Village of Ebenezer
Village of Endeavour
Village of Fenwood
Village of Gerald
Village of Grayson

Village of Hyas Village of Invermay Village of Killaly Village of Lintlaw Village of MacNutt Village of Neudorf Village of Pelly Village of Rama Village of Rhein Village of Sheho Village of Spy Hill Village of Stenen Village of Stockholm Village of Tantallon Village of Theodore Village of Togo Village of Waldron Village of Yarbo





## SOUTHWEST REGION

DIRECTOR: Michelle McKenzie
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Kyle Bennett

#### **CITIES**

City of Swift Current

#### **RESORT VILLAGES**

Resort Village of Beaver Flat Resort Village of North Grove Resort Village of South Lake Resort Village of Sun Valley

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Assiniboia
Town of Burstall
Town of Cabri
Town of Central Butte
Town of Eastend
Town of Gravelbourg
Town of Gull Lake
Town of Herbert
Town of Lafleche
Town of Leader
Town of Maple Creek
Town of Morse

Town of Mossbank Town of Ponteix Town of Rockglen Town of Shaunavon Town of Willow Bunch

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Abbey
Village of Bracken
Village of Cadillac
Village of Caronport
Village of Chaplin
Village of Climax
Village of Consul
Village of Fox Valley
Village of Frontier
Village of Golden Prairie
Village of Hazenmore
Village of Hazlet
Village of Hodgeville
Village of Kincaid

Village of Limerick Village of Mankota Village of Mendham Village of Mortlach Village of Neville Village of Pennant Village of Prelate Village of Richmound Village of Riverhurst Village of Rush Lake Village of Sceptre Village of Stewart Valley Village of Tompkins Village of Tuxford Village of Vanguard Village of Waldeck Village of Webb





## SOUTHEAST REGION

DIRECTOR: Patricia Jackson
DIRECTOR ALTERNATE: Marcel Roy

#### **CITIES**

City of Estevan City of Weyburn

#### **TOWNS**

Town of Alameda Town of Arcola Town of Bengough Town of Bienfait Town of Broadview Town of Carlyle Town of Carnduff Town of Coronach Town of Fleming **Town of Francis** Town of Grand Coulee Town of Grenfell Town of Indian Head Town of Kipling Town of Lampman Town of Midale Town of Milestone Town of Moosomin Town of Ogema Town of Oxbow

Town of Pense

Town of Radville

Town of Qu'Appelle

Town of Redvers
Town of Rocanville
Town of Rouleau
Town of Sintaluta
Town of Stoughton
Town of Wapella
Town of Wawota
Town of Whitewood
Town of Wolseley
Town of Yellow Grass

#### **VILLAGES**

Village of Alida
Village of Avonlea
Village of Belle Plaine
Village of Briercrest
Village of Carievale
Village of Ceylon
Village of Creelman
Village of Drinkwater
Village of Fairlight
Village of Fillmore
Village of Forget
Village of Frobisher
Village of Gainsborough
Village of Glenavon
Village of Glen Ewen

Village of Kendal Village of Kennedy Village of Kenosee Lake Village of Kisbey Village of Lang Village of Macoun Village of Manor Village of Maryfield Village of McLean Village of McTaggart Village of Minton Village of Montmartre Village of North Portal Village of Odessa Village of Osage Village of Pangman Village of Roche Percee Village of Sedley Village of Storthoaks Village of Torquay Village of Vibank Village of Wilcox Village of Windthorst

Village of Halbrite

## **SUMA Staff**

The staff at SUMA, under the direction of the CEO, are responsible for planning and delivering SUMA's annual convention, as well as developing and submitting a budget for approval. SUMA staff promote and protect the interests of urban governments, deliver group benefits, administer insurance and purchasing programs, and organize events, like the annual regional meetings and summer school.



JEAN-MARC NADEAU
Chief Executive Officer



SEAN MCKENZIE Director, Advocacy Services



LINDSAY PEEL Director, Corporate Services



STEPHANIE BARRETT Administrative Assistant



STEPHANIE BOURASSA Education and Events Coordinator



LAURIE BRYANT Accountant



KATEE GALANDY Manager of Strategic Member Engagement and Events



CHEYENNE GEYSEN
Advocacy and
Communications Advisor



CATHERINE HOLLAND Sponsorship and Marketing Coordinator





SARAH MAZENC Communications Advisor



SCOTT MEGER Group Benefits Manager



AUGUSTINA OSASERI Advocacy Advisor



AMANDA REID Group Benefits Advisor



MASON STOTT Advocacy Advisor



HEATHER VANDERAA Executive Assistant



KERRI ANN DANIELS
Director of Operations
and Member Services,
Kinetic GPO



CARL MACDONALD Director of Contracting & Compliance, Kinetic GPO



TANIA WENDLING CEO, SUMAssure



## Message from the PRESIDENT

The theme for SUMA's 2022 year was feedback. The SUMA Board of Directors and staff found several new ways to engage with you, our membership, and we hope you found it as beneficial as we did!

I had the honour of taking the helm as SUMA's interim president near the start of 2022 following the resignation of former SUMA president and long-time board member Rodger Hayward. In April, at Convention 2022, I ran for President and was excited to be elected to remain in the role, this time in an official capacity.

This was a big year for SUMA, as our governance review, an outcome from the 2021 strategic planning process, got underway. In the 2021-25 strategic planning sessions, the Board of Directors established a set of priorities that included "operate under an efficient and modern governance structure". This is an important part of improving the organization and ensuring its sustainability long into the future. The first step to seeing this goal to fruition was to commission a review of the current structure by an outside third party. As part of that review, a potential new governance structure was suggested.

We began consulting our membership on the potential for an updated governance structure at our regional meetings in October 2022. A document outlining the proposed governance model and the consultant's report are available to all SUMA member municipalities in the member portal on SUMA's website. Consultations were also held at the virtual sector meeting in January and are scheduled for Convention 2023.

We are continuing to refine the proposed governance structure based on what we hear from you. We want you, our members, to shape the future of the organization, and that is why we are not rushing any changes related to the governance review. Our intent is to have any proposed changes brought forward to be voted on at Convention 2024. As a member-driven organization, the final decision will rest with our members.

We were also very happy with the addition of the "Dialogue with SUMA" sessions to Convention 2022. They were very well attended, well received, and our committees got a lot of valuable information from those discussions – we were able to tune in to what your priorities are, in your communities, to better inform our advocacy work. We are excited to be bringing these sessions back to Convention 2023, so we can continue to learn from each other.

SUMA's Board of Directors is striving to be as transparent and accountable to you, our membership, as possible. As I continue with my term as President, this is always at the top of my mind. Good relationships and strong connections are vital to SUMA's work and to ensuring that our hometowns have what they need and deserve.

Thank you for placing your trust in us as a Board and an organization. We look forward to continuing to serve and engage with you in 2023 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Randy Goulden, SUMA President

Kandy goulden

## Message from the CEO

Another year has come and gone, and 2022 was, in my eyes, one of the best we've had in a while.

With the lifting of pandemic restrictions, we were able to get back to doing what we do best – connecting with each other and our members. But we took forth what we learned from 2020 and 2021 and continued with a virtual option for many of our meetings and events, ensuring that as many people could attend as possible without worrying about travel, financial implications, or any other number of reasons folks are unable to come to events in person.



With the departure of combination Advocacy Advisor/TSS coordinator Paul Ladouceur and Legal Services Advisor Bukola Afolabi, we had some vacancies to fill. We were lucky to receive a combined legal services/advocacy advisor in Mason Stott, who joined the team in October. Mason was called to the bar in November and we are confident that his legal expertise will benefit both our advocacy efforts and our members at large.

One of our biggest projects this year was the development of a Communications Strategy to ensure all SUMA's communications are effective and strategic. For this, we hired Paper Plane Communications to come in and audit our existing channels and suggest any improvements. The strategy was approved by the Board of Directors in September and will be implemented over the coming months.

As part of SUMA's 2021-25 Strategic Plan, the SUMA Board of Directors commissioned a governance review of the organization. We officially began that process early this year with a consultation report being prepared for and presented to our Board in May. We then began soliciting feedback from our members on this report and the suggested governance structure for SUMA and will continue to do so for the next year. We will take all feedback into consideration. Any proposed changes will be brought forward for voting at Convention 2024.

Convention 2022 was back in-person and over 800 delegates joined us for a jam-packed four days in Regina in April. This is one of my favourite events as it gives myself and my SUMA teammates a chance to connect with as many members as possible, and we get to celebrate so much with both the President's Banquet, honouring municipal employees, elected officials, and former Board members, and the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards, showcasing innovative practices around our province and modelling cooperation and success for other municipalities, both urban and rural.

During Convention you also elected a new president. Randy Goulden, councillor for the City of Yorkton and long-time Board member, stepped into the role following Convention 2022. She will continue to lead the Board until our next elections.

Starting in October, myself, President Goulden, and City of Saskatoon Executive Member Randy Donauer had the opportunity to travel to our regions for the annual regional meetings. We presented our governance review which was met with largely positive feedback. As I stated earlier, we will continue to solicit feedback on this project. We want to be as transparent as possible as we move toward any potential governance structure changes for our organization.

As always, our advocacy team was busy! This year, we implemented a cornerstone advocacy issue: mental health and addictions. What this means is we bring up this extremely important issue at all our meetings, regardless of which Ministry we are connecting with. In December, we were able to meet with the Ministers of Health, Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and Rural and Remote Health, and Social Services directly to further cement the importance of additional mental health and addictions support throughout Saskatchewan's hometowns.

We worked on some big projects in our other portfolios as well, including but not limited to continuing to advocate for the federal government to cover all backpay associated with the new RCMP contracts, the need for a review of the provincial *Police Act* which has not seen a significant update in more than three decades, and the always present issue of landfill decommissioning in Saskatchewan's hometowns. As part of our Strategic Plan, we have developed an MLA engagement strategy to further improve our advocacy efforts at the provincial level.

SUMA has also made strides to recognize and act upon our role in Reconciliation. We are actively creating partnerships with our counterparts at the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations and Métis Nation – Saskatchewan to work on advocacy issues that have overlapping interest.

Our education and events contingent were equally busy, holding 18 webinars throughout 2022 in addition to the previously mentioned combined in-person and virtual meetings. We also hosted SUMA Summer School for mayors and councillors.

We look forward to continuing to find new ways to serve our members in 2023 and beyond.

Jean-Marc Nadeau, MBA, LLM, C.Mgr. Chief Executive Officer







## Strategic Plan

After every municipal election, once the full Board of Directors is in place, SUMA creates a strategic plan for the term. It is our guiding star, setting the priorities for our work on behalf of members and within the Association. The strategic plan is a critical part of SUMA's governance. This high-level view of our work helps us be sure we are moving in the right direction.

In the 2021-25 Strategic Plan, we reiterated our core functions, tweaked our mission, vision, and values, and set out six strategic priorities.

#### **CORE FUNCTIONS**

Advocacy – SUMA represents the interests of our members.

SUMA serves as the collective voice of urban government (cities, towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities).

Group Programs – SUMA helps our members save money.

SUMA offers group benefits, insurance services, and purchasing programs that can reduce the costs of operations for municipal governments.

Capacity Building – SUMA provides our members access to resources.

SUMA provides information, connections, training, and tools to make local government operations more effective.

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

## SUMA is recognized as the collective voice of Saskatchewan's communities/municipalities

#### **Outcome definition:**

SUMA is representing the collective strength of Saskatchewan communities in providing leadership in advocacy, education, and service excellence.

#### Measures:

- 1) Municipal elected officials feel SUMA is meeting their expectations
- 2) Municipal elected officials feel SUMA is important to their municipality
- 3) SUMA elected officials feel that SUMA membership provides a high degree of value

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **Unified Compelling Advocacy**

#### **Outcome definition:**

Provide a strong, unified voice for issues that affect our members.

#### Measures:

- 1) Municipal elected officials feel that SUMA is meeting their advocacy expectations
- 2) Number of advocacy meetings per quarter with provincial cabinet ministers
- 3) Municipal elected officials feel that SUMA ensures municipalities speak with one voice when dealing with other orders of government

#### 2023 Initiatives:

- Seek to develop and nurture a relationship with FSIN and Métis Nation Saskatchewan
- Support and advance work from the mental health and addictions working group
- Saskatchewan Police Act renewal
- Develop a video-based advocacy strategy
- Landfill/transfer station advocacy
- Municipal Climate Change Action Centre
- Develop and implement a homelessness advocacy strategy
- Support the Home Support Initiative developed by the Saskatchewan Senior's Mechanism
- Hire an external expert to review and provide recommendations on SUMA's advocacy strategy



## Strategic Plan

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

## Provide Strategic Communication

#### **Outcome definition:**

Ensure communications, marketing and partnerships are strategic.

#### Measures:

1) SUMA's elected officials feel that SUMA's communications are effective 2) SUMA's elected officials agree with SUMA's strategic direction

#### 2023 Initiatives:

- Increase relationships with Saskatchewan's media outlets
- SUMA social media strategy
- Build federal influence
- Build and improve relationship with Saskatchewan premier and Cabinet Ministers

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **Champion Modern Governance**

#### **Outcome definition:**

Operate under an effective and modern governance structure.

#### Measures:

- 1) SUMA's elected officials feel that the organization operates effectively and efficiently
- 2) SUMA Board Members feel that they receive appropriate training to guide the organization effectively

#### 2023 Initiatives:

• Governance Review

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **Promote Capacity Building**

#### **Outcome definition:**

Seek out new ways to help members build their capacity and augment the education portfolio.

#### Measures:

- 1) SUMA elected officials are very familiar with the work SUMA does
- 2) SUMA elected officials believe that SUMA is very important to their municipality

#### 2023 Initiatives:

- Municipal Economic Development Regional Cooperation
- Develop and implement a member engagement strategy
- Develop a marketing strategy
- Study the possibility of creating a research arm with SUMA
- Study the possibility of developing a SUMA staff position to support French communities in Saskatchewan

#### STRATEGIC PRIORITY

#### **Ensure Fiscal Sustainability**

#### Outcome definition:

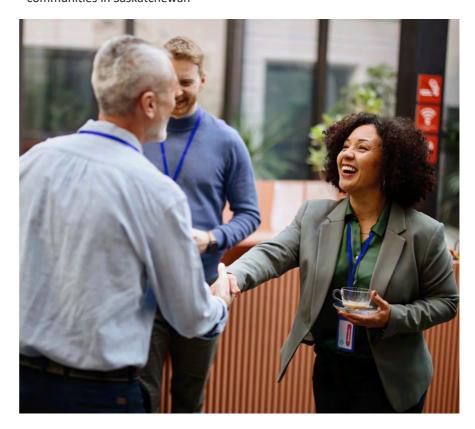
Seek organizational efficiencies, sources of revenue to fund projects, and options to leverage dollars.

#### Measures:

- 1) GBI Operating Income ratio budget vs. actuals
- 2) GBI percentage of budget vs. actuals
- 3) Gross profit margin GBI budget vs. actuals
- 4) Number of member calls to offer new service per month
- 5) Overall SUMA percentage of budget vs. actuals

#### 2023 Initiatives:

- Expand Oliver subscriber portal to full capacity
- Study the possibility of renting floorspace at SUMA office



## **Internal Committees**

The Board has created internal subcommittees to ensure membership priorities and initiatives are met, and to account for the various responsibilities and advocacy areas SUMA encounters daily.

#### Convention Planning:

Responsible for planning and delivering SUMA's annual convention, as well as developing and submitting a budget for approval.

#### Bylaw Review and Governance:

Responsible for reviewing the purpose, organization, and effectiveness of SUMA's bylaws and governance policies.

#### Resolutions:

Responsible for reviewing and reporting on all resolutions and developing resolutions procedures for approval by the Board of Directors.

#### City Mayors' Caucus:

SUMA's City Mayors' Caucus brings together representatives from Saskatchewan's 16 cities to discuss issues of common concern and project a strong, unified voice on the most pressing and important local and provincial issues facing Saskatchewan's cities.

#### **Environment:**

Responsible for environmental matters regarding landfills, recycling, water and wastewater treatment, and other environmental matters that affect hometown governments.

#### Public Safety and Health:

Responsible for matters that involve police and justice, fire and emergency planning, bylaw enforcement, public health, and doctor recruitment.

#### Intergovernmental Affairs:

Responsible for matters that fall outside of the scope of SUMA's other policy committees. Some of these responsibilities include reviewing and making recommendations regarding provincial or federal legislation, regulations and programs and services, participating in consultations, reviewing and providing recommendations on policy resolutions, and identifying potential issues and concerns.

## Community and Economic Development:

Responsible for matters that involve transportation, parks and recreation, culture and heritage, immigration, and economic development.

#### **Advocacy Initiatives:**

Responsible for providing oversight on the special advocacy initiatives fund and the projects associated with the dedicated advocacy reserve fund.

#### Audit and Finance:

Responsible to: regularly report to the full Board of Directors about Committee activities, issues, and related recommendations to assist the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities regarding oversight of financial reporting processes; internal control systems; external audit; legal and ethical conduct; and accountability for the use of assets; assist the Board in setting the tone at the top by influencing corporate consciousness, communication and commitment to ethics and integrity; foster an environment in which management directs due diligence towards the control, accountability and financial reporting functions of the Association; monitor and, where necessary, direct corrective action to improve relations and communication among the Board, the Committee, external auditors and senior management; and promote the independence of the external auditors.

#### **Human Resources:**

Responsible in assisting the Board of Directors of SUMA in their oversight of: the appointment, performance evaluation, and compensation of the Chief Executive Officer; and succession planning and development.





## **External Committees**

The external committees are independent of SUMA and the Board of Directors and handle issues that are not under SUMA's control. These committees consist of members throughout various organizations who bring expertise on the subject matter.

SUMA is represented on several external committees including:

- 1. Area Transportation Planning Committees
- 2. College of Medicine Admission Committee – University of Saskatchewan
- 3. Communities in Transition
- 4. CPSP/SUMA/SARM Policing Committee
- 5. Electronic Product Recycling Association
- 6. Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors
- 7. Multi-Material Recycling Program
- 8. Municipal Employees' Pension Plan
- 9. Municipal Forum
- 10. Municipal Sector Strategic Plan Tables

- 11. New Deal Partnership Committee (Gas Tax) Board
- 12. New Horizons for Seniors Program
- 13. Nuclear Waste Management Organization Municipal Forum
- 14. Photo Speed Enforcement Provincial Committee
- 15. Practitioner Recruitment and Retention Advisory Panel
- 16. Prov/Terr Infrastructure Component Review Committee
- 17. RCMP Contract Management Committee Fed/Prov/Terr
- 18. Rural Highway Advisory Committee
- 19. SAMA Board of Directors
- 20. SAMA City Advisory Committee
- 21. SAMA Urban Advisory Committee (At Large)
  - o <30,000 City
  - o <30,000 City
  - o <30,000 Town
  - o <30,000 Town
  - o <30,000 Village
  - o <30,000 Village
  - o <30,000 SUMA Board Rep
  - o <30,000 SUMA Admin (Observer)

- 22. Saskatchewan Association of Resource Recovery Corporation
- 23. Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Water Council
- 24. Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers Board
- 25. Saskatchewan Environmental Code Advisory Committee
- 26. Saskatchewan Municipal Board
- 27. Saskatchewan Paint and Household Hazardous Waste Advisory Committee
- 28. SUMAssure Board of Directors
- 29. Tire Stewardship of Saskatchewan
- 30. UMAAS Board of Examiners
- 31. University of Regina Senate
- 32. University of Saskatchewan Senate
- 33. Water Security Agency Operator Certification Board
- 34. Western Canada Municipal Associations

## We Provide Resources

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

To ensure that members are kept up to date on news and information, SUMA provides its members and stakeholders with the following resources and publications:

#### Municipal Voice

Municipal Voice is a partnership between SUMA and Craig Kelman and Associates and is the official print publication of SUMA. 3,800 copies of the 8.5x11" colour magazine are printed quarterly (extrapolated passalong readership of nearly 11,400) and can also be downloaded on the SUMA website.

#### Municipal Update

A bi-weekly email bulletin that can also be downloaded on the SUMA website.

#### Social Media

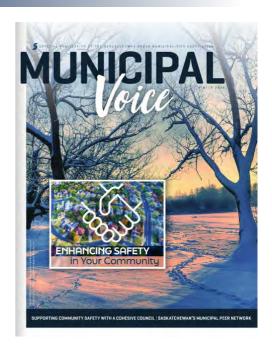
SUMA has a Twitter and Facebook page to communicate with members and to connect with the public and government officials to promote the interests of all members. On Twitter, SUMA has 1,989 followers and on Facebook, SUMA has 1,207 followers and 1,000 likes on the SUMA page.

#### **Annual Report**

SUMA's Annual Report has been drafted to provide members with a document chronicling our initiatives throughout the year.

#### Member Wiki

In 2022, SUMA created a wiki for our members to share resources with one another. This is intended to be a living document repository, regularly accessed and updated by both SUMA staff and SUMA members.



#### **LEGAL SERVICES**

SUMA partnered with Brownlee LLP to provide members free access to Brownlee's Municipal Helpline. Similar to the service formerly offered by SUMA's in-house counsel, the helpline is an informal consultation service for municipalities and municipal-related entities (such as municipal corporations and authorities) that require brief and informal guidance or consultation.

Founded in 1935, Brownlee LLP offers the largest municipal law team in Western Canada. Their in-depth knowledge in all aspects of municipal law provides dependable, practical, and clearly communicated legal and strategic advice.

The Municipal Helpline is an informal, no-strings-attached consultation service for municipalities and municipal-related entities (such as municipal corporations and authorities) that require brief and informal guidance or consultation. The Municipal Helpline was created

because experience has shown that a 10- to 15-minute discussion of a legal matter when it first arises can often help avoid costly discussion, conflict, and litigation down the road. In short, the Municipal Helpline provides clarity, guidance, and peace of mind; allowing municipal clients to take a more strategic approach to their legal needs, and to incur the cost of legal services only when actually needed. It is no wonder that so many municipalities see the Brownlee Helpline as their first and most important step in addressing their legal questions and issues.

## **Events and Training**

#### SASKATCHEWAN MUNICIPAL AWARDS (SMAs)

April 5, 2022

Established in 2006, the SMAs celebrate the excellent and innovative practices of Saskatchewan's municipal governments. These awards are presented annually at the SUMA and SARM Annual conventions.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Awards is a partnership between SUMA, New North, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Rural Municipal Administrators Association (RMAA), the Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS), and the Ministry of Government Relations (GR).

The 2021 winners were:

#### First Place:

Riverhurst Wetland (Village of Riverhurst)

The Village of Riverhurst restored a local wetland that will provide both environmental and economic benefits to the community.

#### Second Place:

Duane Lowe Community Centre (Town of Birch Hills)

The Town of Birch Hills transformed a vacant building into a multi-use facility to house the library, provide space for events, and bring together diverse user groups.

#### Regional Cooperation:

## Jean Louis Legare Regional Park Expansion

(Town of Willow Bunch and RM of Willow Bunch No. 42)

The Town and RM worked together to undertake a water and sewer project to support the expansion of the local regional park and enhance tourism and economic opportunities for Willow Bunch and the surrounding region.

#### Regional Cooperation:

#### South Saskatchewan Ready

(RMs of Poplar Valley No. 12, Hart Butte No. 11, Willow Bunch No. 42, Bengough No. 40, and Happy Valley No. 10, and the Towns of Rockglen, Willow Bunch, Bengough, and Coronach)

Together these municipalities created an action team to find ways and funding to diversify the local economy and mitigate the impacts of the transition away from coal fired power dependence.

#### **WEBINARS**

In 2022, SUMA hosted 18 webinars on various topics including governance, municipal budgeting and asset management, cybersecurity, and more.

#### **MUNICAST**

MuniCast, SUMA's municipal podcast, started in 2021. In 2022 we brought you seasons two and three, which featured conversations with guests including the Honourable Don McMorris and SUMA President Randy Goulden.

#### **ANNUAL EVENTS**

#### Sector Meeting (Virtual) February 9, 2022

In 2022 we brought Saskatchewan's towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities together online for the 2022 Town, Village, and Northern Sector Meeting. The annual meeting is an opportunity for mayors, councillors, and administrators from those sectors to come together and discuss sector specific issues. In addition to member driven discussions, the 2022 event included updates from SUMA and our partners, an education session, COVID-19 Town Hall, and a dynamic keynote address from the humorous Pam Mood.

## 2022 SUMA and Tradeshow Convention April 3-6, 2022

SUMA has been bringing members together for an annual convention since 1906. In 2022, we were able to gather in person again in Regina for both Convention and the Municipal Marketplace.

Our keynote, Don Iveson, the city of Edmonton's 35th mayor, spoke about balancing mental health and the priorities of such a demanding job. During his time as mayor, Iveson served with a guiding leadership principle to make things better for the next generation. This principle is now encoded in Edmonton's City Plan, Council's Energy Transition Strategy and Carbon Budget, and the ongoing work of End Poverty Edmonton. He also worked to continually bridge the urban/rural divide, both nationally and locally.

## Events and Training Continued

#### Convention Continued.... April 3-6, 2022

As always at convention, we offered a wide range of educational sessions. Topics included assessments and appeals, understanding the challenges of Indigenous communities, creating safe communities through collaboration, and project governance.

New was the Dialogue with SUMA sessions. This unique opportunity allowed our membership to have one-onone time with each of SUMA's internal advocacy committees, to learn about what they are working on, and voice their opinions on what could be looked into in the future. The sessions received excellent feedback and are returning for Convention 2023.

#### SUMA Summer School August 25-26, 2022

We were pleased to bring SUMA Summer School back for elected officials, in person, at the University of Regina. Dorm rooms were even available to those wanting the whole college experience. There was also a virtual component for those who couldn't make it in person.

Topics covered included leadership and governance, legal tangles, municipal cybersecurity, municipal strategic planning, council operations, municipal best practices, governing without administering, the council-administration dynamic, and a workshop on addressing mental health and addictions in your community.

We were pleased to offer an impressive slate of presenters.

#### Regional Meetings October 11-20, 2022

Regional meetings are an excellent opportunity to ask questions, share ideas, give feedback, and hear about the latest developments on several major policy issues. This year we returned to in-person meetings, with seven meetings taking place over seven days. The 2022 regional meetings also marked the start of consultations on SUMA's governance review. Two regional meetings - East Central and Northeast – included elections.

We also offered a virtual option for those who couldn't make it in person.

## We Help You Save Money

#### **GROUP BENEFITS**

SUMA is the benefit provider of choice when it comes to Saskatchewan municipalities. We insure over 300 municipalities which equates to providing coverage to 2,550 municipal employees and their dependents. SUMA's Group Benefits program offers a full line of benefits and coverage can be extended to full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees, as well as elected officials. Coverage is completely customizable based on your employee's needs. Options include health, dental, vision, disability, life insurance, critical illness and accidental death and dismemberment benefits. Members also have access to Human Resources services and the **Employee and Family Assistance Program** (EFAP), which provides counseling services accessible anytime and anywhere, along with a wide range of work life and wellness services.

SUMA also provides insurance for volunteer fire fighters and first responders.

Volunteers are covered for injury whenever they are on duty and coverage can also be extended to provide 24-hour coverage. Volunteers may also participate in the EFAP program, which provides them with the tools needed to ensure they are performing at their best when entering a high-risk situation.



#### KINETIC GPO

In October 2020, SUMA transitioned its group purchasing to Kinetic GPO, a Canadian based group purchasing organization (GPO with diverse contract offerings for the broader public sector and MASH entities across Canada.

Kinetic GPO was established with the specific purpose of reducing procurement cost by leveraging the purchasing power of group buying and saving members time by simplifying steps to procure. Kinetic GPO makes cooperative purchasing as simple as possible. There is no charge to become a Kinetic GPO member, no volume commitments, and membership is not an exclusive agreement.

By becoming a member of Kinetic GPO, SUMA members can benefit from:

- Increased purchasing power
- Decreased workload
- More spending dollars
- Improvement in best practices
- · Lower purchasing risk
- Savings beyond price
- Continued growth

In addition to the legacy CentralSource contracts, member municipalities can access an extensive list\* of national contracts through Kinetic GPO which includes:

- Job Order Contracting: Gordian
- Elevator Consulting Services: KJA Consultants and Solucore
- Pest Control and Related Services: Orkin
- School Supplies and Related Items: Wintergreen
- Learning Management System Software: Premergency
- Energy Conservation Solutions and Related Services: *Greenwave Innovations*
- Energy Consulting and Related Services: *Tradition Energy*
- Online Business Marketplace for Good and Services: *Amazon Business*
- Project Management: Colliers
- Equipment and Tool Rental: *United Rentals, Herc Rentals, and Sunbelt Rentals*
- Alarm and Security Monitoring: *Johnson Controls*
- Supply of Tires, Accessories and Related Services: *KalTire*
- Office Suppliers: *Hamster, Grand & Toy and Staples*
- Electrical Vehicle Charge Stations and Services: *ChargePoint and Flo*
- Furniture Installation and Related Products and Services: *Grand & Toy, Steelcase, Fellows* (ESI) and Trendway
- Traffic Control Products: ATS
- Tractors, Implements, Attachments and Accessories: ACGO
- Paper Products: Veritiv
- Information Technology Equipment and Hardware Products: *CDW*
- Print Services and Equipment: Canon, CDW and Xerox
- Transportation, Golf Vehicles and Related Accessories: *ClubCar*
- Roofing Supplies and Services: *Garland and Tremco*
- Building Supplies, Services and Walk-In Option: *Home Depot*
- HVAC Equipment and Services: Trane
- Janitorial and Cleaning Supplies: Staples and Veritiv
- Playground and Outdoor Fitness Equipment, Site Accessories and Surfacing: *GameTime*
- Maintenance, Repair and Operations (MRO): Grainger, Lawson, and Fastenal
- Grounds Keeping Equipment: Toro
- Surplus Auction and Related Services: *GovDeals*
- Automotive and Fleet, Parts, Accessories, Related Products and services: UAP/NAPA
- Sports Surfaces, Installation and Related Materials: *Tarkett Sports Canada/Field Turf*
- Rental of Uniforms, Mats, Mops, Towels and other Related Products and Services: UniFirst

\*list as of January 1, 2023

## What is a Group Purchasing Organization (GPO)?

Group purchasing organizations primarily exist for one simple reason: to help businesses interested in buying similar products gain leverage through combined purchasing power.

## Beyond savings, what other value add services are offered?

Kinetic GPO actively manages contracts throughout their term. Key performance indicators are monitored, and the Kinetic team provides ongoing education for suppliers to ensure they are operating in compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

## What is the advantage of buying through Kinetic GPO?

Kinetic makes cooperative purchasing as simple as possible, yet the compliant process provides the legally required competition for their contracts. They do the work, you save the time and money.

Additional advantages are as follows:

- Voluntary access to contracts, with no spend or volume commitment.
- Continuously increasing choice of a wide range of collaboratively-sourced and competitively-priced products and services available through the contract.
- A fair, open and transparent procurement process to ensure compliance with both National and Regional trade agreements.
- Cost-efficient and time-saving way to meet your municipality's procurement needs.

For additional information pertaining to group purchasing or on a Kinetic or CentralSource contract, reach out to a member of the Kinetic GPO Western Office at 306-525-3727.



SUMAssure is your trusted insurance and risk solutions partner, providing exceptional municipal expertise, service, and support to members in the areas of property and liability insurance.

SUMAssure was created by SUMA, in response to requests from SUMA members to address increasing insurance premiums and shrinking coverage. SUMAssure is owned by participating member communities, administrated in partnership with Aon, and governed by a Management Board comprised of elected officials and municipal administration.

The 241 members of SUMAssure are made up exclusively of Saskatchewan cities, towns, villages, resort villages, northern communities, and municipal related entities.

In 2022, SUMAssure launched a loss prevention pilot program with 14 municipalities participating. Participating municipalities are provided with checklists and access to a digital platform to inspect facilities and help them manage their risk. In 2023, SUMAssure will be expanding the program to additional SUMAssure members.

Communities experience the following benefits when they join SUMAssure:

- Long term cost-effective insurance program
- Municipal tailored property and liability coverage
- A team of municipal insurance experts sensitive to municipal challenges and opportunities
- Hands on claims assistance to ensure timely and fair settlements
- Proactive risk management resources which include checklists, bulletins, articles, educational webinars, and day to day advice from our team of municipal experts
- Opportunity to build equity as you become a part owner of SUMAssure

Additionally, SUMAssure is a proud sponsor of the SUMA webinars and from time to time delivers webinars in partnership with SUMA.

For more information on SUMAssure, visit www.sumassure.ca.

## We Represent Your Interests

In 2022, more than 30 advocacy meetings were conducted with various cabinet ministers, both federal and provincial, to bring your issues and concerns to all levels of government. We met with both cabinet and oppositional/shadow ministers to make sure the full story was delivered.

We have also adapted the way we advocate to suit the current technological age. In addition to in-person and virtual meetings, SUMA has begun video advocacy, using our social media channels to push our messages to a wider audience and play our part in the wider political conversation throughout the province and country.

There were more than 80 Board and Committee meetings held both internally and externally to further advance your interests, resulting in hundreds of reports and briefing packages written, and dozens of key decisions made.

Read about some of the successes that resulted from these meetings below.

#### **SUMA Success Stories**

#### Meeting with Premier Scott Moe

SUMA has been advocating for a meeting with Premier Scott Moe for several years and received the invite to spend over an hour with him in November 2022. During the meeting, we were able to discuss a consultation protocol agreement, the next municipal election date, mental health and addictions in our communities, and small-urban health services.



#### Mental Health and Addictions Cornerstone Issue

In response to the surge in mental health and addictions issues during the pandemic, and the associated challenges of homelessness, crime, and public safety, SUMA made mental health and addictions our cornerstone advocacy issue. This means that in addition to meetings with the ministries directly responsible for mental health and addictions and social services, we bring up this issue in all advocacy meetings.

A Mental Health and Addictions Working Group which includes several city mayors and representatives from mental health and addictions services, academia, health, and family services was developed. The working group meets quarterly to discuss progress and ideas to continue to work toward addressing the lack of mental health and addictions supports in Saskatchewan, and identify solutions for hometowns dealing with the fallout from the crisis in our province.

## Launched Local Government Educational Resource for Teachers

After nearly five years of collaborative effort, an educational resource was launched focusing on local government for the Grade 4 social studies curriculum. This resource was made possible through a partnership with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) and Métis Nation – Saskatchewan.



#### Municipal Nominee Program

At the September 2022 Board of Directors' Meeting, the Board approved a resolution that "SUMA advocates Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to launch the Municipal Nominee Program and that SUMA seeks support from...the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training."

The Municipal Nominee Program was proposed by the IRCC in 2020 as a regional economic immigration program for a pathway to permanent residency. At least 5,000 new permanent residence spaces will be dedicated to this program.

In 2022, SUMA met with the Minister of Immigration and Career Training to seek support in advocating IRCC to implement the Municipal Nominee Program. We are confident that the implementation of the program will increase collaboration among the three levels of government.

SUMA sees the Municipal Nominee Program as a good initiative to support municipalities in attracting, welcoming, and retaining new immigrants in their communities.

#### **Municipal Immigration Network**

In 2022, SUMA launched the Municipal Immigration Network. Open to municipal leaders, the network was created to provide municipalities with the opportunity to learn best practices in attracting, welcoming, retaining and integrating immigrants in Saskatchewan hometowns.





## CAPACITY BUILDING

We provide access to resources

## GROUP PROGAMS

We help members save money

## ADVOCACY

We represent member interests

## Advocacy

### SUMA's 2021-22 Advocacy Priorities

Resolutions advocated on during 2022 (by year of resolution):

#### 2020

#### A Seat at the Table

Prior to the federal election we were advocating directly with the ministers responsible for community and economic development, and the special representative to the prairies for greater municipal participation in developing federal programs. This work has continued since the election, despite the challenge of no longer having a special representative for the prairies.

#### **PST on Municipal Construction Projects**

The SUMA Executive met with Minister Donna Harpauer during our pre-budget advocacy to bring forward various concerns, including PST on municipal construction. We emphasized that while municipalities may receive a small portion of paid PST back through revenue sharing, this was only a small percentage compared to what is paid to the province through municipal infrastructure projects.

We have begun gathering data around the percentage of municipal revenue sharing that is paid back to the province in PST each year, and how this compares to year-to-year increases.

#### Municipal Climate Action Centre

In 2022, SUMA met with the Minister of Environment requesting the government re-consider the proposal and provide funding for the establishment of the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC). SUMA recommended that the MCCAC funding proposal be included in the 2022-23 provincial budget. Ongoing funding could easily be achieved if the province were to dedicate a portion of the new revenue from carbon pricing to support MCCAC funding.

#### SaskPower Rates & Net Metering Program

We continue to work to ensure that municipalities play a central role in the development of the new, smarter electrical grid system in Saskatchewan. In addition to speaking directly with SaskPower about rates for municipalities, we have begun to explore how our cities, towns, and villages can become hubs for clean power generation to supplement whichever means of electrical generation that is chosen to form the electrical backbone in our province.

## Community Involvement in Health Services/Advisory Networks

The need for municipalities to be brought back into the decision-making process for care in their regions has been emphasized again and again during the pandemic. We have brought this forward several times to both the Minister of Health, and the Minister of Rural and Remote Health, and we have started to gain some traction. There has been discussion of reestablishing the advisory networks once COVID-19 has run its course and more resources are available at the ministry.

#### 2021

#### **Supplementary Assessments**

SUMA commissioned a study to look at the entire landscape of assessment in Saskatchewan, including the idea of supplementary assessments. For the project, SUMA engaged the International Property Tax Institute (IPTI) to conduct the independent review of the system. In July 2022, the IPTI completed the report titled "Review of the Property Tax System in Saskatchewan, April 2022."

The report provides options for change on a wide range of assessment and taxation policy matters. The possibilities of these options and the potential to move forward with changes to the assessment system will be brought forward to stakeholders for extensive discussion.

#### Development of a Wetland Policy

Having received very little interest from the province in actually developing a wetland policy, SUMA has begun to draw together key stakeholders that can begin drafting a policy of their own. The intent is to present the province with a document, based in best practices, that can be easily adopted at the provincial level.



## Advocacy Continued

#### SUMA's 2021-22 Advocacy Priorities

Resolutions advocated on during 2022:

#### 2022

## Funding for Disposal and Demolition of Asbestos Debris

SUMA met with the Minister of Environment in 2022 and called on the provincial government to establish a separate funding program, different from municipal revenue sharing, to help municipalities demolish and properly dispose of asbestos in dilapidated buildings.

#### **Funding for Landfill Closures**

In 2019, SUMA met with the Ministry of Environment to deliver a \$250,000 Landfill Environmental Site Assessment (LESA) program to support municipalities conducting environmental site assessments for closed or closing landfills. In 2022, SUMA met with the same Ministry, requesting that the government establish a grant program similar to LESA and advocate funds in the 2022-23 provincial budget to ensure the proper closure of landfills in our communities.



## RCMP Retroactive Salary Increases and Body Worn Camera Costs

SUMA continues to advocate for the Federal Government to absorb the full costs of the retroactive pay resulting from new contract negotiations in 2021, as well as the costs of Body Worn Cameras being implemented in 2024. The provincial Ministry of Justice has lent their support to this initiative.

In relation to policing, we have also been advocating for the renewal of the *Saskatchewan Police Act*. The act has not seen a major update in more than 30 years. In 2020, SUMA commissioned a discussion paper on the topic, as well as consulting with a number of stakeholders, including the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, FSIN, Metis Nation, and the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM), all of whom are in agreement that a review is warranted and are supportive in working with SUMA on advocating for such a review.

The Minister's Office has agreed that a review is warranted but has not yet provided a timeline for when the Review will begin. Minor iterations were made to the Act in late 2022, which SUMA wrote to the Minister's Office regarding, and were assured that those iterations were not a replacement for the fulsome review that has been promised. SUMA will be a stakeholder when the review gets underway.

We continue to advocate for a timely beginning of this process.



#### Healthcare Recruitment and Retention

During SUMA's November meeting with Premier Moe, healthcare recruitment and retention was a main topic of discussion. In December SUMA met with the Ministers of Health, and Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and Rural and Remote Health to carry these conversations on, advocating for additional funding and training for nurses, better doctor remuneration, and improvements to ambulance services.

#### Addictions and Homelessness

SUMA met with both the Ministers of Social Services and Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors, and Rural and Remote Health to discuss the need for more treatment options in our province for both mental health and addictions issues, as well as better post-treatment follow up. We also discussed how both social housing and the Saskatchewan Income Support program affect both these issues.



## **Partnerships**

SUMA engages in partnerships that provide benefits to our member municipalities. Among these partnerships are:

#### **Asset Management Saskatchewan**

Asset management is a municipality's plan for how to manage municipal infrastructure in order to provide services to residents and other users in a way that meets their expectations and is financially sustainable into the future.

Asset Management Saskatchewan is dedicated to assisting municipal stakeholders in improving the knowledge and abilities in municipal asset management.

For more information, visit www.assetmanagementsk.ca/

## Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP)

The Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP) is a series of modules or workshops developed exclusively for elected and appointed municipal leaders in Saskatchewan. The modules target specific issues of importance to urban, rural and northern municipalities. Mayors, reeves, councillors and municipal staff are able to benefit from this program that is designed to strengthen local government leadership.

MLDP is presently structured around six one-day modules. There are two sessions of modules held each year, a fall session and a winter session. Modules can be taken in any order based on the dates and locations that best suit your schedule.

For more information visit www.mldp.ca.

#### Multi-Material Stewardship Western

Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW) launched its program in Saskatchewan on January 1, 2016. This means businesses selling or distributing packaging and printed paper materials now share the responsibility with municipalities to finance the collection and recycling of household packaging and paper.

This approach to funding recycling programs is called Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and is similar to the approach being taken in British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec.

MMSW is a non-profit organization established to help obligated businesses meet their requirements under the Recycling Regulation. MMSW members include retailers, restaurants, importers, manufacturers, distributors or wholesalers, and any organization that supplies packaged goods and/or paper and flyers to Saskatchewan residents.

MMSW is a legal entity in Saskatchewan with its own local office and staff, whose members help fund Saskatchewan municipalities that provide residents recycling of household packaging and paper.

## Saskatchewan Association of Immigrant Settlement and Integration Association (SAISIA)

SAISIA is a non-profit organization that serves newcomers by providing settlement and integration agencies in Saskatchewan with access to professional development and opportunities to network, as well as links to resources they can use to strengthen and enhance their internal procedures, client programs and services.

SUMA has been collaborating with SAISIA on different issues including welcoming the Ukrainian displaced persons and the Afghanistan refugees.

#### Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds

The Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds (SAW is a non-profit organization representing nine watershed groups throughout the province whose mandate is the protection of both ground and surface water. SAW is the principal advocate that represents the watershed group's interests and concerns before senior government. One board member from each member Watershed is a representative on the SAW Board of Directors.

## Saskatchewan Broadband Action Committee

SUMA is part of the Saskatchewan Broadband Action Committee (SBAC, a cross-sector and community based group of provincial, local, and Indigenous organizations and networks formed through a shared and collective concern and understanding of the issues and lost opportunities for all citizens related to broadband connectivity across the province. The SBAC is committed to achieving broadband infrastructure parity by 2024 and to exceed the CRTC standard by 2027, for all Saskatchewan residents, regardless of location.

#### **Saskatchewan Municipal Peer Network**

The Saskatchewan Municipal Peer Network offers dispute resolution services by connecting elected municipal officials and administrators with highly experienced peer mentors who have proven successful in resolving inter-municipal disputes.

Modelled after Alberta's Peer Network, the Saskatchewan Municipal Peer Network is a partnership between SUMA, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM, Rural Municipalities Association of Administrators (RMAA, Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS, and the Government of Saskatchewan.

Learn more at saskpeernetwork.org.

## Partnerships Continued

#### Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association

The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association Inc. (SPRA) is a non-profit volunteer organization whose purpose is to promote, develop, and facilitate parks and recreation opportunities throughout the province.

SPRA is recognized as the provincial organization representing parks and recreation in Saskatchewan. Active members of the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association represent more than 400 communities and partners province wide. SPRA provides a provincial voice allowing its members to promote and facilitate parks, recreation, and leisure opportunities throughout Saskatchewan.

Active members of the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association represent more than 400 communities and partners province wide. SPRA provides a provincial voice allowing its members to promote and facilitate parks, recreation, and leisure opportunities throughout Saskatchewan.

For more information visit www.spra.sk.ca

#### Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism

The SSM is a non-profit, volunteer umbrella organization that brings together Saskatchewan seniors' organizations to contribute to a better quality of life for our province's older adults.

For more information visit www.skseniorsmechanism.ca

## South Central Regional Immigration Partnership (SCRIP)

The SCRIP is one of many Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) initiatives in Saskatchewan. This partnership operates in Moose Jaw and region. LIPs are municipal or regional coalitions designed to strengthen local capacity to attract newcomers and improve integration outcomes. They operate through formal agreements that establish broad-based partnership councils charged with developing and implementing strategies to produce more welcoming communities. There are three other LIP programs in Saskatchewan.

## Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan

The seed for Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS) was planted in the 1950s when a group of town clerks got together to discuss items of mutual interest. The group formed officially in 1957 and has always had the support of SUMA.

Through the years, UMAAS has established a good working relationship with SUMA and various provincial ministries.

For more information, visit www.umaas.ca.

## Water Council for Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce)

The Water Council for Saskatchewan (WCS) is an advisory body set up by the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce as a water governance and management structure. Membership includes stakeholders from private businesses, water stewardship, conservation agencies, academia, and municipal associations.





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