

MUNICIPAL Update

February 24, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 26

MuniCast: Eventful
Conversations with Trevor Moore

February 26

Webinar: Unlock your Leadership
Potential: Coaching for
Improvement

March 4

Webinar: Managing the Storm:
Tactics for Navigating
Harassment

March 12

MuniCast S8:E1: Diversity and
Inclusion in Economic
Development with SEDA,
SAISIA, Town of Tisdale, and 9ja
Foodie

April 13 - 16

2025 SUMA Convention and
Tradeshow

See all [upcoming events](#).

Emerging Issue: Canada Post Review

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) has contacted a SUMA member for support for maintaining Canada Post as a public service. SUMA is aware that if Canada Post is privatized, municipalities could face challenges such as higher costs, reduced services, labour disputes, and more. We believe we can play a role in this by formally addressing municipal concerns and advocating for public review and stakeholder review before any changes are made.

We encourage municipalities to participate in the following ways:

- If your municipality has been contacted by CUPW, hold council discussions and determine a stance on the issue.
- Consider writing letters to the Federal Government outlining concerns and impacts on your municipality. Correspondence can be directed to steven.mackinnon@parl.gc.ca
- Monitor policy developments and stay up to date on the issue.

Important: Membership Invoices Due

Please note that SUMA membership fees were due **January 31**. If you have not yet paid your membership fees for 2025, please do so as soon as possible.

If you have not received your invoice or have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at [306-525-3727](tel:306-525-3727) or suma@suma.org.

SUMA Caucus Results

Congratulations to everyone elected to sit on a SUMA caucus:

Villages:

SW: Nora McLearn - Mayor - Village of Neville.
NW: Ken Huber - Councillor - Village of Goodsoil.
NE: David Duhaime - Councillor - Village of Bjorkdale
SE: Josh Vass - Mayor - Village of Pangman

Towns:

SE: Greg Wall - Councillor - Town of Carnduff
NW: Dennis Helmuth - Mayor - Town of Rosthern
NE: Roy Skoglund - Mayor - Town of Tisdale
WC: Deb Winder - Mayor - Town of Delisle
C: Lamatia Robinson - Councillor - Town of Colonsay
EC: Gina Rakochy - Councillor - Town of Canora
SW: Michelle McKenzie - Mayor - Town of Maple Creek

There are **open positions** in the following regions:

Villages:

East Central
Central
West Central

An email has been sent out to the impacted regions from SUMA encouraging your mayor or councillor to put their name forward by **March 6**. For more information, please contact the SUMA office at suma@suma.org.

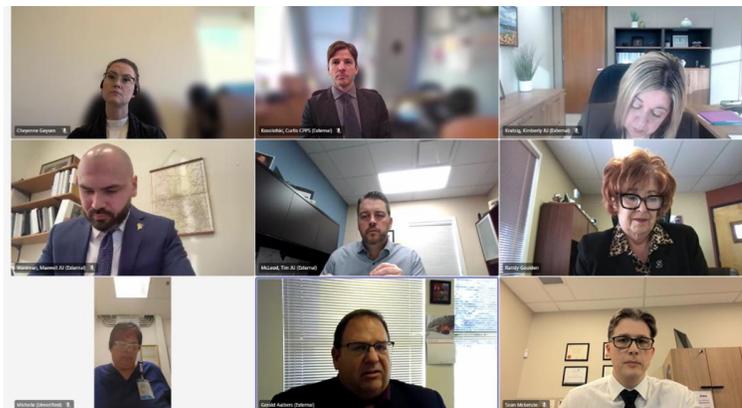
Each SUMA member city is required to appoint an elected official to sit on SUMA's Cities Caucus. Submit your mayor or councillor by **March 15** by emailing suma@suma.org.

Meeting with Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety/Justice and Attorney General

On February 10, SUMA's executive met with the Honourable Tim McLeod, Minister of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety and Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

We discussed the importance of increased options for bylaw adjudication for municipalities, the Police Act, and the Saskatchewan Marshalls' Service.

We look forward to continued discussions with Minister McLeod on these files and more.



SUMA hosts delegation from Bénin as part of FCM PMI-WILL Project

Earlier in February, SUMA was

pleased to welcome a delegation from Association Nationale des Communes du Bénin as part of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities PMI-WILL Project. This visit was part of a successful exchange wherein SUMA delegates visited Benin several times last year.

In addition to hosting them at SUMA for conversations around the ways our organizations can learn from one another, the group had the opportunity to meet and chat with SUMA President Randy Goulden, received a presentation from leaders of SUMA partner, the Assemblée Communautaire Fransaskoise (ACF) about women leadership in the ACF, and take in some educational tourism in and around Regina such as the Buffalo Wastewater Plant and the RCMP Depot.



Meeting with Minister of Energy and Resources



SUMA's executive was pleased to meet with newly appointed Minister of Energy and Resources, the Honourable Colleen Young.

Discussions were held around tariffs, the PST on construction and the need for a new tri-party infrastructure agreement, and the potential for additional resource development in Saskatchewan — especially critical minerals in

northern Saskatchewan.

We look forward to continuing these important conversations.

Resources for Newly Elected Officials

Congratulations to all those who have been elected or re-elected to serve as mayor or councillor in their community.

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

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

CONVENTION 2025

We are URBAN.

SUMA | 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow | April 13-16 Saskatoon, SK

As members from across Saskatchewan come together for the first time following the municipal election, SUMA would like to celebrate the strength of our communities as a part of the urban family. This year, help us create an environment of inclusion and education by shining a light on all the ways urban municipalities—from the smallest villages to the largest cities—serve their population.

Convention Registration is Open!

Join us at the 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow in Saskatoon. Registration for Convention 2025 is now open, January 13. To learn more, visit the SUMA [website](#).

The main contact for each municipality should have received an email with the link and password to register. If your municipality did not receive your invitation to register, please check your junk mail. Not there? Email registration@suma.org.



Delegates are responsible for arranging their own hotel accommodations. To book your room(s) for Convention 2025, simply click [here](#) to access our hotel booking system.

Convention 2025 promises to be a busy four days, from excursions and education sessions, to the Bear Pit. See the [agenda](#) for a list of times and sessions. For more detailed information, check out the [2025 Convention Brochure](#).

Early Bird Reminder

Register by **March 12** to take advantage of early-bird pricing. Everyone who registers by the early-bird deadline will be entered to **win a complimentary registration for Convention 2025**.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact the SUMA office by phone at 306-525-3727, or by email at registration@suma.org.

We look forward to seeing you!

Education Opportunities at Convention 2025

At the 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow, we are excited to be hosting seven concurrent education sessions, four Dialogue with SUMA sessions, three optional excursions, two main plenary education sessions, and our newly rebranded **Kickstart Convention**.

Sunday

SUMA's "Intro to Convention" session has been re-vamped to better support you! Join us for **Kickstart Convention** for an exclusive look at what's in store at Convention 2025.

The **Dialogue with SUMA** sessions are an opportunity for advocacy and education. Share ideas with peers and talk about initiatives you would like to see SUMA champion. Bring your discussion topics and participant in an engaging conversation.

SUMA is excited to offer the opportunity to participate in one of three **optional excursions**: visit **Gordie Howe Sports Complex, Black Fox Farm and Distillery**, or the **CN Railyard**. Pre-registration is required plus an additional fee of \$50.

We will be offering three concurrent education sessions on Sunday: **Community Care: Emergency Services and Mental Health, AI Privacy and Cybersecurity for Municipalities**, and **Let's Re-evaluate Urban Assessments**.

Tuesday

Municipal Marvels: Student Sustainability Solutions: Student groups from across the province submitted proposals explaining their sustainable solution to a problem relevant to their own community. The winning projects will be presented during this session.

Future Proofing Municipalities: Regional Planning and Reconciliation: Moderated by SUMA CEO Jean-Marc Nadeau, panelists from Government Relations, Urban Systems, and Northbound Planning will discuss the value of collaboration for long-term sustainability and community strength.

We will be offering four concurrent education sessions on Tuesday: **Protecting the Municipality and Residents from Municipal Risk, Storytelling to Drive Community Connection, Modeling Respect: Best Practices for Urban Council Meetings**, and **From Conflict to Constructive Dialogue in Your Community**.

Convention 2025: Tradeshow Exhibitors

It wouldn't be SUMA's annual convention without the tradeshow featuring products and services that municipalities use each day. With more than 200 booths to visit, you won't want to miss the **2025 Municipal Marketplace presented by Kinetic GPO**.

Convention delegates will be able to browse tradeshow booths and connect with exhibitors on **Monday, April 14** from **7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**, and **Tuesday, April 15** from **7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.** We also encourage you to join us for the **Early Access Reception** in the Tradeshow on **Sunday, April 13** from **4:00 to 5:45 p.m.** Browse booths and connect with exhibitors while enjoying light appetizers in advance of the Tradeshow's official opening.

Here's a peek at some of exhibitors who have already registered to attend the tradeshow:

- 1 Stop Playgrounds Ltd
- A & R Hydrant Repair Ltd.
- ACEC-SK
- Acti-Zyme Products Ltd
- ADR Saskatchewan Centralized Board of Revision
- Advanced Municipal Solutions
- AED Advantage Sales Ltd.
- Affinity Credit Union
- Airmaster Signs
- Allnorth Consultants Limited
- Alpha Fire Consulting
- ALS Environmental
- Aquifer Distribution Ltd.
- Art of Play a division of J & D Penner
- Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds
- Saskatchewan Common Ground Alliance/Sask 1st Call
- Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers
- Saskatchewan Economic Development Alliance (SEDA)
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance
- Saskatchewan Healthcare Recruitment Agency
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
- Saskatchewan Polytechnic - School of Business
- Saskatchewan Professional Planners

- Ltd.
- ARWMAS
- ASI Engineering
- Associated Engineering
- ATAP Infrastructure Management Ltd.
- ATS Traffic
- Aureus Solutions
- Barkman Concrete
- BCL Engineering Ltd.
- Bridge Vault & Dominion Precast
- Brownlee LLP
- Business Furnishings
- Canadian Ramp Company
- Catterall & Wright
- CIMCO Refrigeration
- Clark's Supply
- CN
- Colliers Project Leaders

- Association
- Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency
- Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC)
- Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism
- Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters Association
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council
- Saskatchewan Water & Wastewater Assoc.
- SaskEnergy
- SaskPower
- SaskTel Business Solutions
- SaskWater
- Scantron Robotics Inc. (Roy and Sons Dredging)
- Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM)
- SEPA (Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association)

You can access the current list of exhibitors [here](#).

Convention 2025: Keynote Speakers

SUMA is excited to feature not one, but two keynote speakers at #SUMA2025. Each presentation will be closely related to SUMA's advocacy work.



Pamela Barnum

Pamela Barnum is a nonverbal communication expert and trust strategist who teaches people negotiation and body language reading techniques often thought of as a “secret second language.”

She will share her expertise, **teaching delegates how to improve their communication skills to increase trust around their council tables** with humor, candor, and energy, blending actionable strategies with memorable stories.



Dr. Gabor Maté

Dr. Gabor Maté is a retired physician who, after 20 years of family practice and palliative care experience, worked for over a decade in Vancouver’s Downtown East Side with patients challenged by drug addiction and mental illness.

The bestselling author of five books published in 43 languages, including the award-winning *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction*, Dr. Maté is an **internationally renowned speaker highly sought after for his expertise on addiction, trauma, childhood development, and the relationship of stress and illness.**

Dr. Maté's keynote will be delivered virtually.

Tradeshow and Municipal Employees



Municipal employees have **free access** to the **2025 Municipal Marketplace** presented by Kinetic GPO at the annual SUMA Convention.

Municipalities can register their observers for the tradeshow at the same time they register their other convention delegates. The tradeshow is taking place **April 14 and 15**. The **Early Access Reception** is being held on **April 13 from 4:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.** Tour booths in advance of the tradeshow's official opening and enjoy light appetizers.

Learn more about Convention 2025 here.

We are
URBAN.

SUMA | 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow | April 13-16 Saskatoon, SK

SHAPE POLICY

Convention is an opportunity to influence policy, both locally and provincially by Shape SUMA's policy direction through resolutions, sector meetings, and the dialogue with SUMA sessions. The annual budget and dialogue with ministers sessions provides delegates with the opportunity to put their municipal issues before the provincial government, as well as the media.

NETWORKING

There are plenty of people to meet and plenty of opportunities to network. Be the specialist or your community and you connect with colleagues, state, SUMA Board and staff members. Network with provincial and federal decision makers at the SUMA Convention, during the President's Gala, sessions, at breaks, and in your sector meeting.

MUNICIPAL MARKETPLACE Presented by Kinetic GPO

- Sunday, April 13, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 14, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 15, 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

One of the largest of its kind in Canada, SUMA's tradeshow features booths with products and services that municipalities use each day. Browse the booths and connect with exhibitors on April 14 and April 15. Tour the booths on Sunday, April 13 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. in advance of the official opening during the Early Access Reception.

SUMA CONVENTION APP

SUMA will once again be using the SUMA Convention app for 2025, meaning everything you need to know about Convention is available at your fingertips.

- Make your own schedule
- Participate in live polls
- Ask questions during education sessions from the comfort of your seat
- Show others what they're missing by posting in the event feed
- See what others are saying about Convention on the social wall
- Never get lost with the interactive maps

REASONS TO ATTEND



Convention Brochure

We are
URBAN.

SUMA | 2025 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow | April 13-16 Saskatoon, SK

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

You'll need to gather the details for all attendees from your municipality before you begin the registration process. As soon as you enter a delegate in the registration system they are considered registered — even if you don't complete their registration. **Only enter delegates that have confirmed their attendance.**

Here is a list of details you'll need to gather and confirm before you start:

The Basics

- Who is in charge of registration? Your municipality will be registered as a group and not as individuals, so it is important to assign one person (such as a CAO, administrator, or clerk) to handle the registration process.
- Who is attending from your municipality? Make sure you have the correct spelling of their names and email addresses.
- What category will each attendee fall under?
 - Voting delegates
 - Non-voting delegates
 - Municipal employees/Tradeshow observers - municipal employees wishing to attend the tradeshow only. (Municipal employees are able to attend the tradeshow for free but must be registered as a tradeshow observer in the convention registration system.)
- How many voting delegates are allotted to your municipality and which council members will be assigned voting privileges?
- Will your council members be attending in-person or participating online? Make sure you know the preference of each council member you are registering.
- NEW! As a part of our We are Urban. campaign, SUMA will be gifting a t-shirt to each in-person delegate to celebrate the strength of our communities and our unity as part of the urban family. Please check with your delegates and let us know their preferred t-shirt sizes.
- What education, breakout, and dialogue sessions will each of your delegates attend? See the promotional brochure for more details.
- Are your in-person delegates interested in participating in one of the two optional excursions? See the promotional brochure for details on the excursions.
- Will you need additional event tickets? One ticket to the Welcome Reception and President's Gala is included in each delegate registration. Additional tickets for the Welcome Reception can be purchased for \$75. President's Gala tickets can be purchased for \$100 per ticket.

Special Circumstances

Does your municipality have to register a SUMA Board member? If yes, you should have received a promotional code. If not, please contact Heather Vanderaa at 306-525-4391 or heather.vanderaa@suma.org.

Are any of your attendees receiving a service award? (This would include Honorary Service, Meritorious Service, Scoop Lewry, and Life Membership awards.) If you have award recipients, you should have received a promotional code. If not, please contact Cheryle Seyen at 306-525-4320 or communications@suma.org.

REGISTRATION FAQS FOR MEMBERS

Member Registration FAQ

CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

Virtual
SUMA
SUMMIT

Sponsored by



Thank you to everyone who attended the Virtual SUMA summit. Recordings of the following

sessions will be available on the [SUMA member portal](#) later this week:

Recording of the full morning including:

- Greetings from SUMA, Minister Eric Schmalz, and SaskWater
- Update from SUMA
- Update from SUMA partners
- Doug Griffiths keynote presentation, 13 Ways

Recordings of the education sessions:

- Unlocking Council Potential - Presented by Sheldon Green
- Unlocking Council Potential - Presented by Keith Comstock

Each municipality has one shared login for the member portal that can be distributed to all staff and members of council. We encourage you to revisit or share previous webinars with other staff or elected officials. [Access the SUMA Member Portal here.](#)



Call for Venues: SUMA's Regional Roadshow

Want to see SUMA visit your community? Eager to invite your peers from throughout your region experience a day in your municipality? Submit your proposal to host a SUMA Regional Meeting!

The **SUMA Regional Roadshow** will be **touring Saskatchewan in June**, and we want to know where we should stop along the way. We will be meeting in one municipality in each of the 8 regions. The **SUMA Regional Roadshow** takes place annually, venues that are not selected for the 2025 Roadshow will be considered for future events.

The call for venues closes at **4:00 p.m.** on **March 4.**

[Submit your venue proposal here](#)



MuniCast

A SUMA Podcast

Bonus Episode

**Trust and Deception with Pamela Barnum
Convention 2025 Keynote**

Bonus Episode: Trust and Deception with Pamela Barnum

Want to get to know keynote speaker Pamela Barnum before Convention 2025? Tune in to the latest episode of **MuniCast**!

After a successful 20-year career in the criminal justice system, Pamela Barnum transitioned to the corporate world with a focus on negotiations. During her time undercover in the Drug Enforcement Section, she honed her skills in building trust and detecting deception—often with some of the most dangerous individuals imaginable. Now, she's leveraging her real-world experience to teach others how to interpret body language and detect deception in both personal and professional settings.

In this episode, *Trust and Deception with Pamela Barnum*, discover what audience members can expect from her keynote presentation at Convention 2025. Learn about the crucial role of non-verbal communication for municipal leaders, how to apply Pamela's insights across various areas, and more.

[Listen now!](#)

MuniCast is available on most major podcast platforms including [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), and [YouTube](#).

SUMA Webinar 02.26.25
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Unlock Your Leadership Potential:
Coaching for Improvement

POTENTIAL

Sponsored by
SUMAssure

Webinar: Unlock Your Leadership Potential: Coaching for Improvement

On **Wednesday February 26** at **10:00 a.m.** join us for an engaging and practical webinar, *Unlock Your Leadership Potential: Coaching for Improvement*, presented by People First HR Services, you will discover how effective coaching can transform your leadership style and drive successful collaboration.

In this session, explore ways to build strong

SUMA Webinar 03.04.25
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Managing the Storm:
Tactics for Navigating Harassment of
Municipal Administration and Council

Sponsored by
SUMAssure

Webinar: Managing the Storm: Tactics for Navigating Harassment of Council

On **Tuesday March 4** at **10:00 a.m.** Milad Alishahi, Partner, and Shawna Sparrow, Associate, with MLT Aikins, will explore the complex issue of harassment of municipal administration and council, focusing on the legal obligations municipalities have to protect their employees and effective strategies for managing harassment by the public.

In this webinar, *Managing the Storm:*

relationships with council and staff to foster trust and collaboration by aligning goals to create a shared vision and purpose, and providing regular, actionable feedback that motivates and inspires. Participants will hear about a proven model for delivering impactful feedback, practical strategies to empower people to build their skills, and how to create a culture of continuous improvement that supports personal and community growth.

Don't miss this opportunity to refine your approach and make a lasting impact!

[Register Now!](#)

Tactics for Navigating Harassment of Municipal Administration and Council, presenters will delve into key legal frameworks governing harassment in the workplace, outline municipalities' responsibilities to ensure a safe environment, and share best practices for dealing with inappropriate behavior from the public. Attendees will gain actionable insights on best practices to restrict harassment by the public, while safeguarding the integrity of municipal leadership and democratic principles.

[Register Now!](#)

SUMA webinars are free to all SUMA members, there is a fee of \$45 + GST and PST for non-members to attend.

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by SUMAssure.



Need to Catch Up On a Webinar?

All webinar recordings are available on the [SUMA member portal](#).

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

A recording of SUMA's latest webinar, ***2025 Property Revaluation: What Municipalities Need to Know***, is now available to be viewed at any time. Presented by SAMA, this webinar includes an update on the 2025 revaluation process, information on SAMA's diligent assessment work, and the latest scoop on the governance aspects of SAMA's operations.

[Visit the SUMA member portal.](#)

OTHER UPDATES

Climate Ready Infrastructure Service

The Climate Ready Infrastructure Service (CRIS) is **now accepting project submissions from local governments and communities across Canada**. This new program, delivered by the Canadian Urban Institute, **connects smaller municipalities with top climate and infrastructure experts to help strengthen infrastructure investments for long-term sustainability**.

Local governments with **populations under 30,000** can register projects at any stage of development to receive specialized expertise, decision-making support, and capacity-building opportunities tailored to their needs.

Learn more and register [here](#).

The Roster of Climate and Infrastructure Experts is facilitated by the Canadian Urban Institute and

Participate in the Canadian Municipal Barometer Survey

The mission of the [Canadian Municipal Barometer](#) is to improve Canadian municipal democracy by conducting cutting-edge research. Every year, they conduct a survey of mayors and councillors from over 1,000 municipalities across Canada. You can contribute to their research on representation, multi-level governance, and public opinion by participating in this annual survey.

Emails inviting you to take the survey were sent on January 6, and the survey closes on **February 28**.

If you have any questions or would like to answer the survey but did not receive an invitation to do so, please email cmb@ucalgary.ca

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@peoplefirsthr.com



Funding from Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada

The Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada, Sean Fraser, announced the launch of **new capital project intakes under the Active Transportation Fund and the Rural Transit Solutions Fund**.

Active Transportation Fund

The Active Transportation Fund supports the **development and enhancement of active transportation networks** to provide Canadians with the opportunity to safely and affordably reach destinations by active modes of transportation. A minimum of 10% of the Active Transportation Fund's funding will be allocated to projects that benefit Indigenous populations and communities.

Applications are currently being accepted through Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's [Applicant Portal](#) until **February 26 (7:00 p.m. EST)**, while applications from eligible Indigenous applicants will continue to be accepted until **April 9 (7:00 p.m. EST)**. Applicants are

encouraged to review information provided on the [Active Transportation Fund website](#), [Applicant Guide](#) and [Step-by-Step Guide](#) prior to creating an application. More information can also be found on [the Active Transportation Online Hub](#).

Rural Transit Solutions Fund

The Rural Transit Solutions Fund supports the **development and expansion of locally driven transit solutions, by helping residents of rural, remote, Indigenous and Northern communities** conduct their day-to-day activities, like access services, go to work, school, medical appointments, and visit loved ones. A minimum of 10% of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund's funding will be allocated to projects that benefit Indigenous populations and communities.

As of December 16, 2024, applications for the Capital Projects stream are being accepted through the Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's [Applicant Portal](#). Applications will be accepted from all applicants until **March 4 (3:00 p.m. EST)**, while applications from Indigenous recipients will be accepted until **April 8 (3:00 p.m. EST)**. Before applying, applicants are encouraged to review the information in the [Capital Projects stream Application Guide](#) and follow the [Capital Projects stream Step-by-Step Guide](#). The Rural Transit Solutions Fund [webpage](#) is also an excellent reference.

Applicant inquiries can be directed to the respective programs at ATF-FTA@infc.gc.ca and RTSF-FSTCR@infc.gc.ca.

Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Moves to a Continuous Process

TSS will be moving to a continuous, rolling intake process. All completed applications in the application system will be reviewed on the **spring closing date of April 30**, and **fall closing date of October 31, 2025**.

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](#).

Micro-credential Course: Municipal Leadership in Addressing Substance Use Harms

SUMA is pleased to announce University of Saskatchewan's new **micro-credential course**, from the School of Public Health, called ***Municipal Leadership in Addressing Substance Use Harms***. This is a 40 hour, 8-week asynchronous online course. It is equivalent to 1 university credit unit. The class will be taught by **Dr. Barbara Fornssler**, an Assistant Professor at the School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan, and by **Jennifer Chouinard BA BSW MPP**, a PhD Candidate at the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Regina.

The course addresses the following four topics:

1. The Substance Use and Addictions Continuum: The Role of Stigma in Health
2. Substance Use Interventions: Harm Reduction and Prevention; Health and Wellness Promotion; Treatment and Recovery
3. Evidence and Strategic Intervention: Municipal Leadership
4. Public Policy, Engagement, and Advocacy

This is a **policy-focused course**, ideal for professionals looking to:

- Refine their skills in articulating the complexities of substance use and stigma.
- Apply evidence-based strategies for reducing substance use
- harms including prevention, treatment and recovery services.
- Develop and evaluate policies in partnership with a range of health system and community stakeholders.
- Communicate effectively with the public to align health initiatives
- with local support services.

Course tuition is \$750 plus taxes and fees. It comes with a certificate and digital badge upon completion. If cost is a barrier to enrollment, please [email Dr. Fornssler](#) directly.

Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF)

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

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

Projects may be pulled for assessment at various times during the intake period, with projects being recommended for approval prior to the intake closing on **March 31** and on May 19 at 3:00 p.m. ET for Indigenous applicants.

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

For more information, please consult these resources:

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

Please feel free to direct any questions to the CHIF team at chif-fcil@infcc.gc.ca.

Applications for the Community Rink Affordability Grant Now Open

Applications for the **2024-25 Community Rink Affordability Grant** opened on **January 6**. Communities, First Nations, schools and non-profits are eligible and encouraged to register for the annual grant of \$2,500 per indoor ice surface. The grant helps offset the costs of operating indoor skating and curling rinks in Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan government will double the program funding to \$3.2 million starting in 2025-26, increasing the grant to \$5,000 per rink.

The application period will stay open until **February 28**, and the grant is set to be paid out by the following month.

To learn more, visit [SPRA grants and funding site](#).

ADVERTISEMENTS



Kinetic GPO

CDW Canada is pleased to be an Apple Authorized Reseller for Apple technology through their awarded Kinetic GPO contract RFSO #21-12 catering to IT solutions and services.

CDW is your trusted technology partner for Apple products and services as well as other OEM solutions that complement the entire Apple ecosystem.

Whether you need to deploy devices with charging carts, ruggedized cases, deploy an MDM

solution, leverage AppleCare+ for schools or refresh your Apple fleet, CDW offers personalized support.

Utilizing this agreement simplifies the procurement process, ensures compliance and puts technology solutions into action when you need them.

The Kinetic GPO contract spans CDW's full catalogue which now includes offerings from Apple Education.

For additional information please contact your Kinetic GPO Business Development Manager **Michelle McCarthy** at michelle@kineticgpo.ca.

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Town of Shaunovan: *Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)
- Town of Shaunovan: *Assistant to Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)
- Town of Maple Creek: *Accounting Clerk II* (February 28)
- City of Moose Jaw *Director of Financial Services* (March 3)
- Town of Davidson: *Operations Manager* (March 14)
- Town of Lampman: *Maintenance Personnel* (March 14)
- RM of Meadow Lake: *Manager of Public Works* (March 21)

Have a position to fill or an item to sell? [Submit your ad](#) on our website.

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



Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- 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)
- *Community Rink Affordability Grant* (February 28)
- CHIF Fund: *Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund* (March 31)
- TSS: *Targeted Sector Support Grant* (April 30)

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

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