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SUMA

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



REASONS TO ATTEND



SHAPE POLICY

Convention is an opportunity to influence policy, both locally and provincially. Shape SUMA's policy direction through resolutions, sector meetings, and the dialogue with SUMA sessions. The annual bear pit 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. Gain a fresh new focus as you connect with colleagues, peers, 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 14, 4:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Monday, April 15, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.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 15, and April 16. Tour the booths on Sunday, April 14 between 4:00 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. in advance of the official opening during the Early Access Reception. Light appetizers included.

THE 2024 SUMA CONVENTION AND TRADESHOW INCLUDES:

- 20+ hours of educational content
- Three optional excursions showcasing sites around Regina
- Access to municipal, provincial, and federal leaders
- 150+ tradeshow exhibitors



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Keynote and MC

Keynote: David Coletto

Sponsored by SaskWater

Tuesday, April 16 11:05 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

David Coletto is Chair, CEO and founder of Abacus Data a full-service market research and strategy firm based in Ottawa and Toronto. With almost two decades of experience in the industry, David and his partners founded Abacus 13 years ago and since then it has grown into one of Canada's most respected market research firms.

David has spent much of his professional career exploring and measuring public opinion as it relates to housing, quality of life, public policy, and capturing the mood of Canadians. He has worked with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Canadian Real Estate Association, the Ontario Real Estate Association, and many associations.

He earned a PhD in Political Science from the University of Calgary in 2010 is an adjunct professor at Carleton University. He is the host and producer of inFocus with David Coletto a new podcast that explores the intersection of public opinion, politics, public policy, and consumer behaviour.

He's a foodie, a cyclist, and an avid traveler.



MC: Cody Demerais

Sponsored by Brownlee LLP

Cody Demerais is an award winning Métis author, speaker, life coach, and entrepreneur, born and raised in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

During Cody's keynote presentation in 2023, he shared his impactful story of struggle and resilience through intense substance abuse issues, as well issues with anger and depression that led to a life altering car crash.

Now, Cody is a successful leader, who delivers inspirational and motivational talks on his past so others don't have to learn the hard way as he did. An entrepreneur, change maker, and community advocate, Cody Demerais aims to make a difference in this world.

He was the recipient of "Young Entrepreneur Of The Year" for 2021 ABEX awards through the Saskatchewan Chambers. He now sits on the Prince Albert Chambers Board of Directors, and the Youth Representative for Western Regional 2 Métis Nation Saskatchewan.





Convention Agenda

Schedule is tentative and may change. Check the Convention page on the SUMA website for more information and updates.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Convention Registration

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Introduction to Convention

12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dialogue with SUMA



These sessions are an opportunity to share feedback with SUMA's committees! Is there something you have been wanting to see SUMA advocate for or host an education session on? Have you heard about a new initiative that you would like to discuss? Pick the topic that interests you most and join in an engaging conversation.

Community and Economic Development

Do you have ideas on how to make your community better? SUMA's Community and Economic Development Committee may be able to help! Join SUMA representatives for a round table discussion on all things related to your community and its growth! Topics commonly discussed by the Community and Economic Development Committee include transportation, parks and recreation, culture and heritage, immigration, and of course, economic development.

Intergovernmental Affairs

The municipal election date, a review of funding allocations under Municipal Revenue Sharing, and the municipal acts. What do these have in common? They all impact municipalities. They also all fall under SUMA's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee which has responsibilities including reviewing and making recommendations on provincial or federal legislation, regulations, and programs and services.

Environment

From climate change to natural disasters, the environment, and our impact on it is a pressing topic whose importance grows daily. Join SUMA's Environment Committee to discuss municipal-specific environmental issues such as landfills, recycling, water, and wastewater treatments. This session is for all environmental matters that impact Saskatchewan's hometowns.

Public Safety and Health

SUMA's Public Safety and Health Committee is responsible for matters that involve police and justice, fire and emergency planning, bylaw enforcement, public health, and doctor recruitment. As we deal with pressing issues surrounding mental health and addictions, our hometowns know health and safety is important to us all on both an individual and community level. If you have fresh new ideas and thoughts on the health and safety of your community, don't miss this session!



Convention Agenda

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 (Continued)

2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Additional charge to attend.)

Excursions

Experience one of three optional excursions. Space is limited, so register early.

Municipalities of the Future: IMAX and Saskatchewan Science Centre

Join us at the IMAX for a screening of “Cities of the Future” to delve into the plans engineers have been formulating for a more sustainable world. Following the screening, the staff from the Saskatchewan Science Centre will engage in a discussion about an upcoming project that seeks to collaborate with students throughout Saskatchewan to apply the principles and practices shared in the film to municipalities of all sizes. Guests will have the opportunity to explore the exhibit floor of the science centre before returning to the International Trade Centre for the Early Access Reception in the Tradeshow.



Discover Lumsden: Where Sunshine Meets Spirits in the Qu’Appelle Valley

Take a trip to the Town of Lumsden to explore its award-winning solar power facility and visit Saskatchewan’s first micro distillery, Last Mountain Distillery. Currently, Lumsden is the most solar-driven municipality in the province. Check out the solar panels and learn how they generate clean and renewable energy, powering the municipality’s wastewater treatment plant. During your time at Last Mountain Distillery, discover how they began their journey and learn about the meticulous crafting process of their premium handmade spirits, using locally sourced grain, herbs, and vegetables.



Capital Connections: A Tour of the Legislative Building and Government House

The Legislative Building and Government House are Provincial Heritage Properties located in the heart of Saskatchewan’s capital city. Built in 1931 and 1891, respectively, these buildings continue to be significant components of the province’s rich political history. Tour the Saskatchewan Legislative Building to see where elected representatives gather to debate and make decisions that directly affect your municipalities, and learn about the history of the provincial legislature. Meanwhile, Government House served as the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor until 1945 and offers a journey back in time.



Convention Agenda

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 (Continued)

2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Education Sessions

Refresh your knowledge and focus with education that is relevant to your day to day community issues. These concurrent education sessions are designed for municipal leaders from hometowns of all sizes. NOTE: These sessions are being held at the same time as excursions.

Restore Harmony in Municipal Roles and Conflict Resolution

Refresh your understanding of your role as a councillor and your responsibility to recognize and address conflicts of interest. This session will review statutory requirements and case law related to municipal roles and responsibilities. Walk away with new tips and increased confidence for managing conflicts.

Modernize Your Understanding of Property Assessment

With the 2025 revaluation on the horizon, it's time for municipalities to renew their understanding of property assessment. Learn about the resources available to you as you prepare and plan for changes to assessed values. Hear about the current trends in revaluation and what changes you may expect in 2025

Rapid Response: Hands-On Disaster Management

The more trust the public has in their local government, the more likely they are to feel that municipal decisions are being made for their good and the good of their community. Research has linked strengthened public confidence with effective government strategy. Discover what this means for you as a municipal leader.

Survey to Strategy: Exploring Municipal Wellbeing Through Policy

Following their presentation Relating Municipal Well-being to Community Planning at the 2023 SUMA Convention this group will share fresh findings from the second stage of their research on municipal well being. Through interviews conducted with 20 municipal council members and administrators from across Saskatchewan, learn how municipalities are incorporating the well-being approach to guide decision-making, community planning and budgeting, and begin working on your own municipal well-being plan.





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Convention Agenda

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 (Continued)

4:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Early Access Reception in the Tradeshow

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception

Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception is specifically designed for networking with your municipal council, your peers, and SUMA's Board of Directors. The event will be located centrally in Regina's vibrant downtown at the historic Hotel Saskatchewan. A cash bar and light appetizers that promise to bring life the Saskatchewan experience through local food, beer and cocktails will be available throughout the evening. Your ticket to this event is included in your Convention registration, so don't miss out.





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Convention Agenda

MONDAY, APRIL 15

7:15 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Convention Registration

7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Municipal Marketplace presented by Kinetic GPO

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
Official Opening Ceremonies

9:15 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.
SUMA President's Address

9:25 a.m. - 9:35 a.m.
FCM Address

9:35 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Break - Connect in the Tradeshow

11:00 a.m - 11:45 a.m.

NEW!

Sustainable Solutions: Managing Municipal Infrastructure Challenges

Many municipalities struggle with the heavy investments required to update their old infrastructure. This can be a significant cost without an immediate financial return and can lead to increased costs in the long run if councils avoid dealing with aging infrastructure. Considering the financial strain on municipalities, it is crucial to explore avenues of support from provincial and federal levels. In this discussion, panelists will delve into the various challenges related to municipal infrastructure and discuss how your local government, with potential support from higher levels of government, can address these issues while ensuring long-term financial sustainability.

11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Premier's Address

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Lunch





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Convention Agenda

MONDAY, APRIL 15 (Continued)

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Sector Meetings

- Cities
- Towns
- Villages, Resort Villages, and Northern Municipalities

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Break – Connect in the Tradeshow

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Resolutions and Prize Giveaway

Resolutions

Resolutions help direct SUMA's advocacy. They are also a great way to get issues important to Saskatchewan's hometowns in front of the media.

The deadline for submissions is January 31. The resolutions package will be sent to all SUMA members in March and a copy will also be available on SUMA's website.

To ensure that councils have an opportunity to discuss all resolutions before voting at Convention, SUMA strictly adheres to our [Resolutions Policy](#) regarding the addition of resolutions submitted after the resolution deadline. Only emergency resolutions that are urgent and emergent will be considered.





Convention Agenda

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

7:15 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Convention Registration

7:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Municipal Marketplace presented by Kinetic GPO

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
Education Sessions



Revamping Your Approach to Municipal-Resident Relationships

It's time to renew the way we approach building relationships with municipal residents. Learn about the troublesome trends and challenges occurring throughout Western Canada and discuss what you're seeing in your own municipality. Hear about proactive ways to build long-term relationships, trends that have emerged, and how to handle potentially difficult situations through transitions.

Building Resilient Municipalities Through Sustainable Governance

Gain a fresh, new, focus on what sustainable governance means in a Saskatchewan context. Municipalities in Saskatchewan play a key role in the advancement of social, economic, and environmental sustainability initiatives, and the Governing Sustainable Municipalities (GSM) project was designed to help municipalities identify and eventually achieve their sustainability targets. Presenters will provide an explanation of how the research was conducted and connect the long standing discussions the sector has had on sustainability and the realities of governing in the 21st century. Learn how to identify obstacles and potential avenues for advancement, cultivate communities of practice, and increase your municipalities focus on sustainability.

Beyond the Firewall: Revitalize Your Municipal Cyber Security

Municipalities in Saskatchewan continue to be impacted by cyber security breaches. Renew your knowledge in the critical realm of municipal cyber security and the legal requirements that safeguard municipal data. This session will explore the unique challenges municipalities face, facilitate discussion to uncover solutions, and provide possible solutions for implementing cyber security best practices for your municipality.



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TUESDAY, APRIL 16 (Continued)

Renewing Commitments: Duty to Consult and Urban Reserve Creation

Bring your questions for an interactive discussion and learn about municipal roles in urban reserve creation, and your duty to consult. Gain insight on what First Nations are entitled to, and when a municipality must consult with First Nation and Métis communities if they undertake an activity that may impact Aboriginal and Treaty rights. Learn about the history and obligations related to urban reserve creation and the duty to consult with examples of real past situations with suggestions on what to avoid and how to improve relationships.

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Break — Connect in the Tradeshow

10:45 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.

Leader of the Official Opposition's Address

11:05 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

Keynote Address - David Coletto

12:10 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.

Lunch

1:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Minister of Government Relations' Address

1:30 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.

Saskatchewan Municipal Awards
Presentation

2:05 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

SUMA AGM and Prize Giveaway

3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Break





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TUESDAY, APRIL 16 (Continued)

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

What's Yonder: Innovative Governance Practices for Cities

Look at innovative practices and emerging trends through photos of local governments around the world that are curated into eight themes focused on innovative governance. Attendees will participate in small group discussions and walk away with a new scanning framework to use in their own municipalities.

Cooperation Redefined: Building Stronger Towns and Villages

Based on a report submitted to SUMA in 2023, this session will focus on best practices in intermunicipal cooperation in Saskatchewan and elsewhere. Gain insights on elements of a successful intermunicipal relationship, and strategies for improving intermunicipal cooperation.

Town and Village Visionaries: Leveraging Donations for Community Renewal

Did you know that municipalities are eligible donees under the regulations of Canada Revenue Agency? It is time to renew this understanding and leverage the municipal ability to fund community projects. Hear about the experiences of Saskatchewan municipalities who have used donations for community projects and discuss ideas that could work in your municipality.





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Convention Agenda

TUESDAY, APRIL 16 (Continued)

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
President's Gala

President's Gala

Enjoy a buffet dinner with your peers, be wowed by hypnotist, Wayne Lee, and recognize the contributions of fellow long-serving elected officials and municipal employees who have made our hometowns stronger. The President's Gala is a night of celebration. We honor hard work through our awards ceremony and bring together shared interests over delicious food and an evening fundraiser for the Laurent Mougeot Scholarship Fund. This is a celebration you won't want to miss!

Each Convention registration includes one ticket to the President's Gala. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The entertainment will follow the program at approximately 9:00 p.m.





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Convention Agenda

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Convention Registration

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Dialogue with Ministers

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Break

10:45 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
Prize Giveaway

10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.
Bear Pit with Cabinet

12:05 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Closing Remarks



General Information

Registration

Convention registration includes:

- shuttle service to and from designated hotels;
- admission to the early access tradeshow reception on April 14;
- admission to Municipal Marketplace presented by Kinetic GPO taking place April 15 and 16;
- a keynote address;
- one ticket to the Welcome Reception;
- one ticket to the President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony;
- education and breakout sessions;
- dialogue sessions with SUMA, and the Provincial Cabinet;
- breakfast and buffet lunch on Monday and Tuesday; and
- refreshment breaks.

How to Register

All the details on the online registration process will be sent via email to the main contact for all member municipalities, other government, and partner organizations. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us. Find the rates for Convention 2024 at www.suma.org.

Accommodations

Hotels for the 2024 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow can be [booked online](#). See rates for hotels in Regina.



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