Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association
Unit 305 4741 Parliament Avenue
Regina, SK S4W 0T9
306-525-3727

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMA's Response to the 2026-27 Federal Budget

SUMA is satisfied overall with the Government of Canada's 2026-27 Budget. The Federal Government's priorities for the next fiscal year align with much of our advocacy work, showing promise for continued growth and investment in Saskatchewan's urban municipalities.

SUMA is pleased to see $1.5 billion over nine years through the Build Communities Strong Fund to expand, retrofit, and rehabilitate recreational facilities and ice rinks across Canada. We are encouraged by the Federal Government's recognition of the value of recreational infrastructure for local communities. Saskatchewan's urban municipalities—towns, villages, resort villages, cities, and northern municipalities—are responsible for building and operating these facilities, which improve quality of life for residents and those in surrounding areas.

SUMA made several trips to Ottawa this past year to advocate for dedicated infrastructure funding and other Saskatchewan priorities. The inclusion of several of these priorities in the federal budget demonstrates the importance of continued municipal advocacy and engagement with the federal government.

"SUMA is encouraged to see recreation infrastructure included in this budget, an investment we have consistently advocated for with the federal government on behalf of Saskatchewan's urban municipalities," President Randy Goulden stated, "SUMA will continue to advocate for further dedicated funding, delivered in a flexible format, to support the many forms of infrastructure urban municipalities across Saskatchewan provide. Specifically, a tri-party funding agreement between municipal, provincial, and federal governments would ensure that communities could have long-term access to the funding they need to maintain the places where our province's residents live, work, and play."

SUMA was also heartened to see federal funding agreements with provinces and territories for mental health and addictions services and home and community care included in this year's budget, as well as the $44.7 billion over 11 years to expand non-market housing and build a housing market that works for all. Mental health and addictions are SUMA's cornerstone advocacy issues. Across the province, our urban municipalities are on the frontlines of the negative impacts of this crisis, including homelessness. Both sources of funding are important steps in addressing these issues.

Finally, we were pleased to see funding allocated to the RCMP Heritage Centre, Regina's Globe Theatre, and the NorthWest Regional Recreation, Event and Emergency Protection Complex in Beauval, along with the commitment to designate the RCMP Heritage Centre as a national museum. Investments in cultural, heritage, and community assets like these play an important role in preserving and showcasing our shared history at both the provincial and national levels. They also serve as key drivers of tourism, economic activity, and community pride across Saskatchewan's urban municipalities.

SUMA looks forward to continuing to work with our federal and provincial partners on issues important to Saskatchewan's urban municipalities.

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For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact:
Roxanne Korpan – Manager of Communications
306-525-4396
communications@suma.org

Sean McKenzie – Director of Advocacy
306-525-4388
advocacydir@suma.org