Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association
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March 18, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>SUMA Thanks the Government for Honouring their Commitment</u>

From our smallest villages to our big cities, urban municipalities across Saskatchewan applaud today's announcement that the provincial government will honour their promise to share one point of the PST with municipalities. The Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) welcomes this announcement, after months of uncertainty for our hundreds of member municipalities.

"As partners in building Saskatchewan, urban municipalities are relieved," says SUMA President Debra Button. "We do not have to go back to our ratepayers for money the province promised us last summer. Urban governments must build a balanced budget with scarce resources every year, so we understand the difficulties faced in this budget. We thank the provincial government for honouring their promise of revenue sharing."

SUMA looks forward to continuing a government-to-government relationship with the province as we work to make Saskatchewan a great place to live. This commitment to a historic funding arrangement is an encouraging step as we work in consultation with the provincial government on the many issues that affect the people who live in our towns, villages, and cities as they continue to grow.

"Revenue sharing from the provincial government allows urban governments to make the most of property taxes," says Button. "We can focus on putting that money into the services and infrastructure our communities need and our residents expect."

We also appreciate that the government heard our voice on investing in Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency (SAMA) technology, and increased funding to northern roads.

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For more information visit www.suma.org, or to arrange an interview please contact:

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Founded in 1905, SUMA is the voice of urban Saskatchewan, representing cities, towns, and villages.