



Municipalities of Saskatchewan
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMA Calling for Federal Commitment to Build Safer, Sustainable Communities

As Canadians prepare to head to the polls on September 20 to elect Canada's 44th Parliament, the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) is calling on Canada's federal parties to commit to helping build safer, more sustainable communities and fostering a better municipal-federal relationship.

"Municipalities are the order of government closest to the people," said Mayor Rodger Hayward, President of SUMA. "We understand the needs of our residents, and what we need is federal support to build communities that are safe and sustainable. We also need a relationship where we are at the table when discussions that impact our communities, like infrastructure funding and policing, are had."

To build safer and sustainable communities, SUMA is calling for the permanent doubling of the Canada Community-Building Fund with a predictable annual growth rate that better reflects economic growth and construction costs. There also needs to be reliable broadband in all communities, support for resource communities, support to help communities become more climate change resilient, national leadership in public safety, and coordinated mental health and addictions support.

"Building safe, sustainable communities means ensuring that our most vulnerable residents are supported," said Mayor Gerald Aalbers, chair of SUMA's City Mayors' Caucus (CMC) and Vice-President of Cities. "While health and social services are primarily the responsibility of the province, all orders of government have a direct role to play to ensure their safety."

Saskatchewan's city mayors and managers are discussing issues important to the province's largest municipalities today at a CMC meeting in Yorkton.

More information on the needs of Saskatchewan's hometowns this federal election can be found in SUMA's [Federal Election Municipal Issues Backgrounder](#).

-30-

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 Saskatchewan's hometowns.