

MUNICIPAL Update

October 21, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 30

Webinar - How Co-operatives Help Municipalities Address the Cost of Living Crisis

October 30

MuniCast - Local Government Administration with the University of Regina

See all [upcoming events](#).



Municipal Marvels Student Challenge

What will your community look like in 50 years?

The ***Municipal Marvels Student Challenge (MMSC)*** is inspired by the Future Cities Challenge (featured in the IMAX documentary Cities of the Future). **The Saskatchewan Science Centre** is implementing this student challenge, aimed at providing innovative solutions for municipalities across Saskatchewan. The contest is open to all groups of students from any community in Saskatchewan.

The Saskatchewan Science Centre is hosting a webinar about the program on **Tuesday, October 22 at 5:00 p.m.** Learn more about the Municipal Marvels Student Challenge and [how to get involved here](#).

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Help Expand the Reach of SUMA's 2024 Election Messaging

With the 2024 Provincial Election just around the corner, SUMA has been sharing resources from our election campaign to help municipalities and their residents make an informed decision at the polls. **Help us spread our message by sharing the posts we make on social media** ([X](#),

[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)).

You can also find information election campaign and the various official party platforms on the [2024 election hub](#). You'll find details on topics such as municipal revenues, municipal responsibilities, and provincial downloading -- all issues SUMA is concerned with in this election.

Recently, SUMA published a media release on mental health, addictions, and homelessness, highlighting what future governments must do to help communities across Saskatchewan support their residents. You can read the release [here](#).

Provincial Election Forum Recording Now Available

If you missed the provincial election forum, you can still listen to the debate, and hear more about how each party's platform supports urban municipalities. **The Provincial Election Forum recording is now available on SUMA's Election Hub.**

[Watch the Provincial Election Forum Recording.](#)

Emergency Treatment Fund (ETF)

The federal government announced the launch of the first call for proposals for Health Canada's Emergency Treatment Fund (ETF). The fund will invest \$150 million over 3 years to help municipalities and Indigenous communities deal with mental health and addictions crises in their communities.

The ETF will provide short-term support to rapidly mobilize and build capacity for enhanced access to trauma-informed, evidence-based substance use treatment, harm reduction and integrated services, such as naloxone distribution and drug checking equipment. Funding may also be used to hire a support worker to help residents navigate housing options, as often housing insecurity and mental health and addictions are inextricably linked.

The intention behind the ETF is for to be responsive and adaptive, allowing communities to address their urgent needs in a way that best addresses their unique situation. **Applications will be accepted until November 8 at 2:00 p.m. EST.** Further information for prospective applicants can be found in the [Applicant Guide](#).

Read Health Canada's news release about the call for applications [here](#).

2025 Resolutions Policy

Resolutions are one way SUMA members can get their issues to the forefront of our advocacy efforts, and it's never too early to start thinking of those you might submit. Now is a good time to review the guidelines in the 2025 Resolutions Policy. You can access the document [here](#).

As is our policy, **only those resolutions that are absolutely critical and could not possibly have been included in the Convention package will be brought forward after the January 31 deadline**, and only then with justification for why it is both urgent and emergent. Any other late resolutions will be considered by the SUMA Board after Convention.

To read past resolutions visit our website [here](#).

We are URBAN.



Our cities, towns, villages, resort villages, and northern municipalities are urban hubs bringing people together.

We are URBAN.



Highlight your community and **be part of the We are URBAN. campaign!**

Share photos and videos spotlighting your municipality. Don't forget to include a description, your location, and the name of your municipality.

Over the summer, many communities featured billboards proudly declaring, **We are URBAN.** If you're from one of the below municipalities, please send us a billboard photo. **We need your help** to collect pictures from each location.

- Balgonie
- Bethune
- Birch Hills
- Bredenbury
- Chaplin
- Codette
- Davidson
- Delisle
- Foam Lake
- Hanley
- Langham
- Marshall
- Paynton
- Radisson
- Watson

Follow us on **Instagram** at [@suma.connect](https://www.instagram.com/suma.connect), and use the hashtag **#WeareURBAN** to share. You can also share directly on [memoryKPR](https://www.memorykpr.com) by using the QR code provided.

Let's celebrate our municipalities and everything that makes them unique! We are URBAN.



[Learn more about We are URBAN.](#)

CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

Registration for fall modules is now open!

Fall 2024 Modules of the **Municipal Leadership Development Program (MLDP)** are now open for registration. Mayors, reeves, councillors, elected officials, administrators, and municipal staff who want to strengthen leadership in their local government are encouraged to register.

This program is especially beneficial for newly elected municipal officials.

Modules Include:

Municipal Leaders' Roles and Responsibilities

December 5 - *Virtual, hosted by SARM*

January 21 - *City of Prince Albert, hosted by SUMA*

January 23 - *City of Moose Jaw, hosted by SUMA*

Human Resources in the Municipal Workplace
October 30 - Town of Oxbow



Municipal Leadership
Development Program

Strategic Communications for Municipalities
November 27 - Town of Herbert

Municipal Economic Development Fundamentals
December 10 - Virtual

Strategic and Financial Planning for Municipalities
December 16 and 17 - Virtual

Community and Land Use Planning
Offered virtually through Southeast College.

For more information, please visit the MLDP [website](#) or direct questions to the MLDP Administrator, Christina Berry, at cberry@sarm.ca.



The next episode of MuniCast will be released on October 30. In episode 3, **Local Government Administration with the University of Regina**, we discuss the Local Government Administration certificate program offered by the University of Regina. This program covers the fundamental concepts of society, democracy and principles of local government administration in Saskatchewan including an introduction to Saskatchewan legislation relevant to municipal government processes. Students have the opportunity to further their learning by completing the advanced certificate.

The Certificate and the Advanced Certificate satisfy requirements for local government administrator certification through the Rural Municipalities Administrators' Association (RMAA) and Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan (UMAAS).

Listen to MuniCast here.

A banner for a webinar. At the top left is a laptop icon and the word 'Webinar'. In the center is the SUMA logo. On the right, the date '10.30.24' and time '10:00-11:00 a.m.' are displayed. Below this is a photograph of hands holding a small white house model on top of a stack of coins. A white text box is overlaid on the image with the text 'How Co-operatives Help Municipalities Address the Cost of Living Crisis'. At the bottom right, it says 'Sponsored by SUMAssure' with the SUMAssure logo.

Across Saskatchewan, municipalities face growing challenges attracting and retaining people, and businesses encounter difficulties recruiting workers. A shortage of homes and rentals results in growing housing costs and a lack of childcare opportunities mean families cannot participate fully in the workforce.

In this webinar, *How Co-operatives Help Municipalities Address the Cost of Living Crisis*, on **Wednesday October 30 at 10:00 a.m.** Co-operatives First's Kyle White will share how some municipalities are addressing these concerns by mobilizing local assets to create community-owned co-ops.

In this session, you'll learn about what municipalities across Saskatchewan are doing to increase the supply of housing, childcare, and economic opportunities and what funding is available to support these initiatives.

Not able to attend live?

All webinar recordings are available on the **SUMA member portal** at suma.org/member-login.

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.

[Register here!](#)

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by:



SUMA webinars are free for all SUMA members to attend. Non-members can attend for \$45 plus GST.

SUMA Service Awards

Annually, the Board of Directors recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to outstanding service in the municipal field. SUMA is proud to honour individuals for their outstanding contributions to the development and prosperity of our communities and urban governments in Saskatchewan.

The [Meritorious Service Award](#) is granted to municipal employees in Saskatchewan urban municipalities who have served 20 years or more of employment. It recognizes their career success, dedication, and involvement in their local community.

The [Honorary Service Award](#) recognizes elected officials in Saskatchewan urban municipalities who have served 20 or more years on municipal council. It recognizes their long-term dedication to, and involvement in, their local communities.

Nominations will remain open until 12:01 a.m. on **January 5, 2025**.



Submit Your Nominations for the 2024 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards

The **Saskatchewan Municipal Awards (SMAs)** celebrate the excellent and innovative practices of Saskatchewan's municipal governments. The program also aims to share knowledge amongst municipalities by sharing best practices, promote cooperation and synergies between

urban and rural municipalities, and award municipal driven projects.



Why nominate your municipality?

Winning a municipal award can elevate your municipalities profile, and get eyes on your project from key people and organizations that can support the continued success of your initiative.

Nominations are open until **November 26**. Learn more about project categories and eligibility, and access the nomination form at municipalawards.ca.

“ This award elevated our profile so we were successful in attracting high profile visitors, spokespeople, policy makers for the launch and tours. ”



2021 winner
Village of Riverhurst

[Learn more here.](#)

OTHER UPDATES

Natural Infrastructure Webinar

Discover how natural infrastructure can help tackle flood and drought challenges on the Canadian prairies and the increasing importance of natural infrastructure in managing water resources amidst climate change. The expert panel gathered by IISD (International Institute for Sustainable Development) and Natural Infrastructure on the Canadian Prairies will delve into the dual challenges of flood and drought, exploring how innovative solutions can enhance community resilience.

Panelists include: Dr. Heather Morrison of Environment and Climate Change Canada; Colin Whitfield with the University of Saskatchewan and Global Institute for Water Security; Lesley Peterson from Trout Unlimited Canada; and Justin Reid from Manitoba’s Redboine Watershed District. The panel will be moderated by Kerra Chomlak of ClimateWest.

WEBINAR

Flood and Drought

Natural infrastructure as a dual defense

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Tuesday, October 29
10:30–11:45 a.m. CT



Register and learn more about the webinar [here](#).

SUMA Partner, memoryKPR, Helps Preserve Small Town History

memoryKPR conducted a pilot program helping 48 communities across the province by providing them with tools and knowledge to preserve their history, while also attracting visitors and tourists with their stories and attractions. The pilot project was made possible through Innovation Saskatchewan’s Made in Sask technology program, and has provided communities access to speakers and experts in the fields of marketing and economic development.

The firm partnered with SUMA before Convention 2024 to help make the program a reality. SUMA has also been using memoryKPR’s platform as part of the We are URBAN. campaign, helping communities across the province showcase their municipal spirit and history through photos and descriptions of the things they’re most proud of in their community.

Municipal Election Supplies from SUMA

SUMA began offering election supplies and ballot printing during the 1997 election year. Members can take advantage of our bulk purchasing savings and friendly customer service when preparing for their municipal elections/byelections.

Member Advantages

- Substantial cost savings, based on bulk purchasing of supplies and bulk processing of ballots.
- Supplies shipped using the most cost effective method for each individual municipality (usually within 3-5 business days of order receipt).
- When the order is received by the SUMA office within **15 business days prior to the advance poll date**, guaranteed processing of ballot orders to meet the limited turn-around time between close of nominations, advance poll, and election dates. Orders received less than 15 business days prior to the advance poll date cannot be guaranteed.
- Members will be invoiced directly from SUMA.

Election Supplies and Ballot Order Forms

- **SUMA Members only:** [Election supplies and ballots](#) (PDF document)
- **SARM Members only:** [Election supplies](#) (PDF document)

Contact Information

Please scan and email forms to suma@suma.org

Handy References & Links

- Electoral Forms - Print Your Own: Visit the [Publications Saskatchewan](#) to download and print your own Election Forms.
- Can't find what you're looking for? Forms may also be found at [the King's Printer](#).
- [The Local Government Election Act, 2015](#)
- [The Local Government Election Regulations, 2015](#)
- [Election Procedures for Municipalities](#)

Municipal Administrator's Corner – Election Resources

2024 is a general election year for all municipalities in Saskatchewan. **Cities, towns, and villages will hold their general elections on November 13. Northern municipalities have the option to choose from the second last Wednesday in September, the last Wednesday in September, or the first Wednesday in October.**

To learn about amendments to [The Local Government Election Act, 2015](#) and [The Local Government Election Regulations, 2015](#), please check out the document [Information Bulletin: Amendments to The Local Government Election Act, 2015](#).

The Advisory Services and Municipal Relations branch has also updated several resources to assist election officials in carrying out their municipal election. [The Election-Byelection Scheduling Tool](#) is a great resource to map out the municipal election process and become familiar with the legislated dates and publishing requirements. [The Local Government Election Guide](#) for Saskatchewan municipalities has also been updated and is available to help municipal election officials understand the municipal election process and perform their duties.

For additional questions regarding municipal election legislation or these resources, please contact the Advisory Services and Municipal Relations branch at **306-787-2680** or by email at muninfo@gov.sk.ca.

Election Resources for Citizens Running for Council

The Ministry of Government Relations, in consultation with the municipal associations (Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association,

Urban Municipal Administrators Association of Saskatchewan and Rural Municipal Administrators' Association), developed the following **resources geared toward citizens who are thinking about running for municipal council**:

- [Guide – Consider Running for Municipal Council](#) – A citizen's guide for candidacy in municipal elections.
- [Videos](#) – Four pre-recorded videos that break down the guide content into shorter video clips by topic.
- [Poster](#) – A poster that contains a QR code that the public can use to go to saskatchewan.ca where the new resources are located.

As an administrator, you're encouraged to communicate the availability of these resources to the public by:

- Displaying the poster in the municipal office and/or public spaces frequented by your citizens.
- Printing copies of the poster and/or guide to have available in the office.
- Including the poster on the municipality's website.
- Including information in upcoming mailouts of the municipality.

Rail Safety: Operation Life Saver Canada

Operation Lifesaver is a not for profit organization that is dedicated to preventing collisions and other incidents around railway property, trains and especially railway crossings. They believe in achieving this goal by promoting public awareness and public education.

Whether you are on foot, in a car, or riding a bike or recreational vehicle, staying safe around railway tracks and property is all about knowing the rules. You can **learn more about Operation Lifesaver and rules around railways** [here](#).

If you would like more information about Rail Safety Week please do not hesitate to contact Peter Dubrowolski at olprairielead@gmail.com.

Equal Voice Saskatchewan Chapter - Save the Date!

Join the [Equal Voice Saskatchewan Chapter](#) (EV SK Chapter) as they celebrate the courageous women who are running for public office in 2024.

The free reception is in Regina, SK, on the evening of Monday, November 25, 2024, [during Canadian Western Agribition \(CWA\)](#). This event aims to recognize and thank all the women who took the step to stand for elected office, whether for a school board, municipal or rural municipal position, or a seat in the provincial legislature.

Many elections are taking place throughout the province this summer and fall. While the outcomes in many cases are still unknown, Equal Voice wants to ensure they recognize every woman who has stepped forward and put their name on a ballot!

Mark your calendars to celebrate these remarkable individuals and their supporters. [RSVP today](#) to receive further details as the event approaches.

Amendments to Municipal Acts and Regulations

This spring, with the passing of Bill 153, the following three acts were amended:

- The Cities Act
- The Municipalities Act
- The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010

The amendments improved key areas related to assessment appeals, conducting electronic meetings and improved existing processes to ensure consistency across all three acts. Additional changes were made to the regulations for each Act and were passed through Orders in Council 365/2024, 366/2024 and 367/2024 on July 11, 2024.

To view a summary of the legislative changes, download the information bulletins below:

- Information Bulletin: [Amendments to The Cities Act and Regulations \(Bill 153\)](#)
- Information Bulletin: [Amendments to The Municipalities Act and Regulations \(Bill 153\)](#)

- Information Bulletin: [Amendments to The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010 and Regulations \(Bill 153\)](#)

When legislative changes occur, it is important to ensure you are viewing the most recent legislation. To download copies of the updated versions of the consolidated acts and regulations, visit the [Publications Centre](#).

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CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS





Classifieds

Positions Available:

- RM of Montrose: *Municipal Administrator* (Oct 22)
- Town of Carrot River: *Administrator Temporary Position* (Oct 24)
- Regina's Warehouse District: *Executive Director* (October 31)
- Town of Wilkie: *Public Works Manager* (Nov 12)
- Village of Mankota: *Foreman and Water Works Operator* (Nov 19)
- Town of Hepburn: *Chief Administrative Officer* (Nov 29)

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)

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

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