

MUNICIPAL Update

October 6, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8

MuniCast S9:E2 SUMA Vice President - City of Regina, Shanon Zachidniak

October 15

Webinar: Exploring Team Dysfunction

October 22

Part 2: Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators

October 22

MuniCast S9:E3 SUMA Vice President of Towns, Michelle McKenzie

November 12

Northeast Regional Meeting

November 13

Northwest Regional Meeting

November 14

Northern Regional Meeting

See all [upcoming events](#).

SUMA Joins Saskatchewan Delegation in Ottawa

SUMA was pleased to join a delegation from Saskatchewan in Ottawa on October 1st and 2nd, **presenting a unified voice on Saskatchewan's unique needs to our Federal counterparts.**

In addition to SUMA, the delegation included Government Relations Minister Eric Schmalz, Advanced Education Minister Ken Cheveldayoff; mayors of the cities of Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Swift Current, North Battleford, and Yorkton; and leadership from the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM).

Over two days, we had the opportunity to meet with various Federal Ministers and staff, including Secretary of State Buckley Belanger, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure the Honourable Gregor Robertson, Minister for Prairies Economic Development Canada the Honourable Eleanor Olszewski, the Saskatchewan Conservative Caucus, Saskatchewan Senators, and staff from the offices of the Ministry of Finance and the Secretary of State for Small Business and Tourism.

The majority of our discussions centred around the need for federal investment in infrastructure, including a replacement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) fund.

We are calling on the Federal Government to introduce a permanent infrastructure program that increases the overall amount of funding available and ensures funding is long-term, sustainable, and predictable. This will allow communities to adequately plan for the future and use asset management practices that ensure the strong stewardship of public resources.



***Municipal Voice*: Fall 2025 Issue Now Available**

The Fall 2025 issue of SUMA's magazine *Municipal Voice* is hot off the press! Print copies should be in our members' mailboxes soon, or you can read the **digital version**.

This issue focuses on age-friendly communities, municipal liability, the power of storytelling in strengthening communities, dealing with harassment in municipal government, municipalities' authority over access to public assets, and our partnership with Eco-West, plus an interview with our MuniCast Season 9 host, Chris Brown!

Share the News!

Is your entire council receiving *Municipal Update* emails? We encourage mayors, councillors, and administrators to **individually sign up to our newsletter** so our updates make it straight to your inbox. Please share this email with your colleagues and encourage them to sign up today!

Sign Up for Email Updates from SUMA

Reminder: Access to SUMA Member Portal

The **SUMA Member Portal** hosts valuable resources for members including meeting recordings, webinars, and more.

Each municipality has one shared login for the Member Portal that should be distributed to all staff and members of council. Please contact your Chief Administrative Officer for access. We encourage you to revisit or share previous webinars and other relevant information with other staff or elected officials.

If you are unsure of your login information, please contact communications2@suma.org for assistance.

Visit the SUMA Member Portal

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Connecting with the Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities



Last week, a delegation from SUMA visited the **Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities** (FSLGA) as part of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' **Partnerships for Municipal Innovation - Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL)** project.

The visit centred around information sharing on SUMA's Board of Directors, including roles and responsibilities of Board members and a look into our caucus structure, member services provided by SUMA,

and group work around member engagement, advocacy, and communications strategies.

SUMA has previously visited Benin, West Africa as part of the PMI-WILL Project, and we are grateful for continued opportunities to connect with our sister federations across the globe to learn from one another.

Canada Post Services in Saskatchewan Communities

We are concerned with the Government of Canada's recent **announcement** of plans to transform Canada Post services.

In particular, we are opposed to the announced conversion of the door-to-door delivery services to community mailboxes. This will have negative impacts on our vulnerable populations including seniors, people with disabilities, and residents without vehicles. It would also shift new operational burdens to municipalities.



SUMA is advocating for the continuation of Canada Post as a public service, improved—rather than reduced—home and parcel delivery, the addition of postal banking, expanded electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, and enhanced delivery to smaller communities and Indigenous communities.

Additionally, we urge the federal government to ensure a transparent public review and meaningful stakeholder engagement, including municipalities, before making any changes to the *Canada Post Corporation Act* or *Canadian Postal Service Charter*.

President and CEO of Canada Post Doug Ettinger has responded to the Government of Canada's in a letter to all Canadians. Read the letter in **English** or in **French**.

Canadian Centre for Recovery and Resilience

SUMA is pleased with the Government of Canada's announcement of the launch of the **Canadian Centre for Recovery and Resilience**, which will provide practical resources for Saskatchewan's urban municipalities before, during and after disasters.

During our federal election campaign, **SUMA called on the next Federal Government to reinvest in municipal emergency services**. Maintaining an interoperable emergency response system is critical to maximizing the effectiveness of our mutual aid agreements and facilitating large-scale deployment of public and private resources, and the **launch of this resource is a positive step in that direction**.

We would like to see the Federal Government continue with this positive momentum and look to the future of emergency response with the reintroduction of a tri-party cost agreement for emergency equipment such as the former Joint Emergency Preparedness Program.

CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES



Webinar



10.15.25
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Exploring Team Dysfunction



Sponsored by



Webinar: Exploring Team Dysfunction

In this engaging session, **Exploring Team Dysfunction**, presenter Johanna Hildebrand with People First HR Services will unpack Patrick Lencioni's powerful framework, The Five Dysfunctions of a Team. Whether you're leading a team or contributing within one, this session will equip you with tools to diagnose dysfunction and foster a culture of trust, clarity, and results.

Through interactive discussion and practical insights this webinar will explore:

- How to build trust as the foundation of team cohesion
- Why healthy conflict is essential, and how to manage it constructively
- What true commitment to shared goals looks like
- How accountability strengthens performance and culture
- The critical importance of focusing on collective results

Join us on **Wednesday, October 15 at 10:00 a.m.** to better understand what holds teams back and how to move forward together.

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by SUMAssure. Webinars are free to all SUMA members. There is a fee of \$45 + GST and PST for non-members to attend.

[Register Here](#)

SUMA's webinar program is sponsored by SUMAssure.



Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators Part 2

Part 2: Virtual Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators

Have you participated in the **Procurement Bootcamp for Urban Municipal Administrators**, either in-person or virtually? Join us on **Wednesday, October 22 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.** for **Part 2** to dive deeper into what you learned during the first session. Part 2 will focus on going deeper into policies, service level agreements, prequalification, and contract management.

Please note: This session is only open to administration who have previously attended one of the in-person or virtual procurement bootcamps. This will be the final session delivered by Larry Berglund as he will be retiring at the end of 2025.

Participants from Part 1 were emailed a registration link. If you did not receive this email and would like to attend, contact Stephanie at education@suma.org.

Did you miss out on attending Part 1 of Procurement Bootcamp? Stay tuned for a revitalized version of this training starting in 2026.



MuniCast Season 9

MuniCast season 9 is underway!

In episode 1, **SUMA President Randy Goulden**, hear how SUMA's new governance model works in practice, the priorities guiding the Board, and what members can expect from SUMA's renewed approach to representation and decision-making. Tune in to this episode unpacking the Board's role, the benefits of the caucus model, and the priorities that will guide SUMA moving forward.

[Listen Now](#)

Episode 2 is coming your way on **October 8**, featuring a conversation with SUMA Vice President for

the City of Regina, Shanon Zachidniak.

MuniCast is available on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), [YouTube](#), and other major podcast platforms! Keep an eye on member emails or subscribe to MuniCast on your platform of choice to be notified when the latest episodes are released.

A banner for the SUMA 2026 Convention and Tradeshow. On the left, the SUMA logo is displayed in a light beige color against a dark blue background. Below the logo, the text 'CONVENTION AND TRADESHOW' is written in white. Further down, '2026' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by 'CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. To the right of this, the text 'deadline OCTOBER 16, 2025' is written in a light beige, sans-serif font. Below all this, the text 'REAL District - Regina, Saskatchewan' and 'APRIL 12- 15' is written in white. On the right side of the banner, there is a photograph of three people sitting in armchairs on a stage, engaged in a discussion. The background of the stage is dark blue with some geometric patterns.

Call for Submissions: Education Sessions at the 2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow

The 2026 SUMA Convention and Tradeshow is built on the theme *Foundation of Urban Strength*, and who better to help shape that foundation than you? **SUMA is now accepting submissions for education sessions at Convention 2026.**

As leaders in Saskatchewan's urban municipalities, you bring firsthand knowledge of the challenges and successes that define municipalities across the province. **We're seeking dynamic, participatory presentations that reflect the realities of Saskatchewan's urban municipalities, sparking dialogue and offering real-world solutions.**

Not interested in presenting? If you know someone with fresh ideas on topics like sustainable development, regional cooperation, or council governance, encourage them to submit.

Let's amplify the voices that drive progress in our communities.

[Access the Call for Submissions](#)

SUMA Service Awards: Nominations Now Open!

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 midnight on **January 4, 2026**.



Nominations open September 9 to November 18

The Saskatchewan Municipal Awards
are sponsored by **Affinity**
Credit Union



Celebrate Excellence with the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Saskatchewan Municipal Awards! SUMA is a proud partner of the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards, recognizing the innovation and leadership that shape Saskatchewan's future. Whether it's an urban innovation, a rural breakthrough, or a powerful partnership between municipalities, the SMAs honour the very best in municipal-led initiatives.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Awards are awarded for:

- Top municipal led initiative (rural, urban, or cooperative)
- Top rural municipal led initiative
- Top urban municipal led initiative
- Regional cooperation (a joint initiative with at least one rural and one urban municipality working collaboratively to lead the project)

Winners are provided with a professional video that highlights their winning project and can be used as a free marketing tool for your community. The video will be played at the SARM and SUMA Conventions in 2026 where the winners will be presented with an award that they can proudly display in their municipal office.



Nominations are open until November 18th.

[Learn More and Nominate](#)

OTHER UPDATES

Back in Session: 2025 Throne Speech Reception

SUMA is pleased to sponsor the **Public Affairs Association of Canada - Saskatchewan Chapter's** fourth annual throne speech reception. "Back in Session: 2025 Throne Speech Reception" will take place on October 22 at the Hotel Saskatchewan, located at 2125 Victoria Avenue in Regina.

This is a free event, so we encourage members and non-members alike to come out, make connections, and enjoy the evening.

Date: Wednesday, October 22

Time: 5 p.m. - late

Location: Blue Lounge, Hotel Saskatchewan, Regina

Cost: Free for PAAC members and non-members



Funding Opportunity: Safe and Active School Routes

Funding is available through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund to support **new or improved active transportation infrastructure along school routes in your community**, including quick-build or permanent features such as pathways, sidewalks, bike lanes, crossings and safety enhancements, along with knowledge and capacity to implement these improvements effectively.

As a grant recipient, you'll join a dynamic two-year journey designed to gain the skills, knowledge and connections to successfully plan and implement safe and active transportation projects in your community. You will receive expert training and connect with national leaders in active school travel to help drive lasting change.

As part of the cohort, you'll receive support to:

- **strengthen community engagement with proven strategies to gain school and stakeholder buy-in**
- **navigate challenges, policies, and regulatory hurdles**
- **sharpen your project planning skills, including funding, infrastructure, and implementation**
- **build collaborative relationships across sectors to support long-term success**
- **learn to track progress and measure impact, including GHG reductions and long-term impacts.**

Application Deadline: The pre-application deadline is **October 17, 2025**.

[Learn More and Apply Here](#)

Application Fee for Standalone HSWDG Facility Construction or Alterations

Effective October 1, 2025, the Ministry of Environment has **implemented a \$1,000 application fee for the construction or alteration of stand-alone hazardous substance and waste dangerous goods (HSWDG) storage facilities**, as regulated under the Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Regulations.

This fee applies to applications submitted on or after October 1, 2025. This change supports cost-recovery and enhances the efficiency of regulatory processes.

The fee applies to:

- Approvals to construct new stand-alone HSWDG storage facilities that are not regulated through other permits or approvals by the ministry;
- Approvals to alter (expand) pre-existing stand-alone HSWDG storage that are not regulated through other permits or approvals by the ministry;
- Facilities such as, but not limited to, salvage yards, retail fuel stations, bulk fuel plants, agrichemical warehouses, waste dangerous goods collection sites and transfer stations.

For more information, please refer to the guidance document, **EPB 657 – “Application Fee Guidance for Stand-Alone Hazardous Substances and Waste Dangerous Goods Storage Facilities,”** the [Hazardous Materials Storage page](#) of Saskatchewan.ca or visit the [Environment Resource Library](#). If you still require additional information, you may contact the Ministry of Environment’s Inquiry Centre at 1-800-567-4224 or centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca.

Regional Tariff Response Initiative for Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Manitoba

The Government of Canada will provide up to **\$5 million in repayable funds or up to \$1 million in non-repayable funds to support businesses and sectors negatively impacted by tariffs from the U.S., China, and/or Canadian counter-tariffs.**

The RTRI supports investments in growth and resiliency that will help businesses succeed and strengthen our economy and will prioritize project activities that:

- Have higher proportions of Canadian inputs
- Demonstrate greater economic benefits for the Prairies
- Support local, regional, or national supply chains

Eligible applicants include:

- Incorporated companies, corporations, and co-operatives
- Indigenous-owned businesses and organizations
- Non-profit organizations that support businesses

Applicants must show that at least 25% of their sales are in impacted markets or demonstrate they (or the businesses they support) have been directly affected by ongoing trade disruptions, including new U.S. and China tariffs or Canadian countermeasures. Additional eligibility information is available on the portal website or from the Prairies Economic Development Canada office.

[Learn More and Apply Here](#)

SUMA's Pet Tag and Animal Control Products Program is Ending

Since 2008, SUMA has provided members with **pet tag and animal control products** from Ketchum Manufacturing Inc. When this program was established, there were limited options for our members to find these types of supplies. SUMA stepped in to provide this program, offering a much-needed service to ensure pets are safely managed in your communities.

In today’s online world, there are now many options to order pet

tag and animal control products at competitive prices, so SUMA's role in managing this program is no longer needed moving forward.

We will be discontinuing the Ketchum pet tag and animal control products program as of December 31, 2025.

To place an order for products before the program ends, please visit our website.



Place Final Orders

Restoring Civility: Training Session for Municipal Leaders

Restoring Civility is a day-and-a-half session designed specifically for elected officials and will offer both **practical and reflective tools to better understand, manage, and respond to incivility in your role**. Presented by the **Saskatchewan Ombudsman**, the agenda includes:

- Understanding the roots and dynamics of incivility
- Practical considerations for public engagement
- Human-first communication strategies
- Conflict escalation, power dynamics, and de-escalation tools
- Active listening and non-defensive communication
- Mindset and self-care strategies for managing stress and rumination
- Low-impact debriefing techniques and ongoing support tools

Whether you're dealing with difficult conversations, public confrontations, or the personal toll of ongoing stress, this training will offer a supportive, solutions-focused space to build resilience and strengthen your communication toolkit.

Date: October 15 and 16, 2025

Location: Government House - Henry Newlands Ballroom (Regina) or Online

Day 1: 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Day 2: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The session will be offered both in-person and online. To register, please use the link below and indicate your preference. In-person space is limited.

Register Here

Municipal Climate Adaptation Certificate



UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MUNICIPAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION CERTIFICATE

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uwaterloo.ca/climate-institute

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The **Municipal Climate Adaptation Certificate**, offered by the University of Waterloo's Climate Institute, is a forward-thinking initiative tailored for municipal staff and elected officials across Canada.

Developed in collaboration with leading experts in climate adaptation, this new certificate is designed for municipal staff across a range of roles—from accounting and planning to governance, engineering, and community development. Through practical, expert-led courses, available in both English and French, participants will gain essential skills and knowledge to strengthen climate resilience in their communities. Upon completion of each course, participants will be empowered to lead locally tailored and equity-informed solutions that address today's climate challenges.

This project is carried out with funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund and the Government of Canada.

Registration is now open, and courses begin in January 2026.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

2025 Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association Conference

The **Saskatchewan Emergency Planners Association (SEPA)** is proud to bring emergency management professionals, volunteers, and community leaders together to strengthen preparedness and resilience across our province.

This fall, SEPA invites you to join the 2025 SEPA Conference – your chance to connect, learn, and share strategies that make a real difference in our communities.

This year's program is packed with opportunities to learn and engage:

- **Keynote:** Fire Chief Mathew Conte (Jasper, AB) – Lessons learned from preparing for and responding to community hazards.
- **Guest Speakers:** Guardians of the North – Bringing unique perspectives on northern resilience and response.
- **Interactive Tabletop Exercise:** Put your skills to the test in a realistic emergency scenario.
- **Workshops & Networking:** Practical tools, discussions, and connections you can take back to your community.

You have two opportunities to attend:

Moose Jaw – Temple Gardens Hotel & Spa
November 3 & 4, 2025

Waskesiu – Hawood Inn
November 5 & 6, 2025

Both conferences feature the **same program** so you can choose the location most convenient for you.

For more information, read the [Conference pamphlet](#).

[Register Here](#)

Treaty Learning Journey 2: Living Our Treaties Conference

The Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) is hosting a two-day Treaty Learning Journey 2: Living Our Treaties Conference in Yorkton on October 20-21.

Join the OTC to learn more about:

- Foundations of Treaty
- Intentions of Treaty
- Elder's dialogue on Treaty
- Strengthening good relations - living our intentions
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

The OTC and Former Mayor of the City of Saskatoon Charlie Clark will present preliminary findings from research on strengthening good relations in Saskatchewan between First Nations and municipalities and all Saskatchewan residents.

View the informational brochure [here](#).

For more information or to register, please contact treatyeducation@otc.ca.

Partnership with People First HR Provides Assistance to SUMA Members

Does the thought of HR make your head hurt? We get it.

HR issues can be complex and difficult to navigate. That's why SUMA has partnered with **People First HR** to provide group benefit members with HR On Call support and access to 100s of HR templates.

Approved callers can get HR On Call support for topics such as:

- Creating a respectful workplace
- Employee relations
- Managing leaves
- Performance management guidance including employee discipline
- Termination
- Disability management consultation (accommodations, return to work, doctor notes)
- Legislation and best practice
- Requirements for policy development and workplace procedures



Free up time with access to hundreds of HR templates

From recruitment to performance management, policies to respectful workplace (and so much more), with HR On Call you have access to hundreds of FREE HR templates to make supporting your team easier.

To learn more and access templates you need, email People First at hroncall@peoplefirsthr.com

Targeted Sector Support (TSS) Applications Ongoing

Targeted Sector Support (TSS) is a portion of Municipal Revenue Sharing (\$1.5 million per fiscal year) used to encourage inter-community collaboration, help build capacity and promote good governance in all Saskatchewan municipalities. The funds are used to support projects that help municipalities strengthen their core governance and administration responsibilities

The TSS Steering Committee is now accepting applications for funding under this program.

Applications are accepted at any time of the year and will be reviewed on a monthly basis.

Please view the [intake guide](#) for details on the TSS initiative, project eligibility, and the application process. The online application portal can be accessed [here](#).

ADVERTISEMENTS



Kinetic GPO

Kinetic GPO is pleased to announce a new competitively solicited and publicly awarded contract RFSO #25-05 for traffic control products and services awarded to ATS Traffic and Universal Group.

A new competitively solicited and awarded contract for water treatment chemicals, supplies and services, RFSO #25-06, has been awarded to **Chem International**.

Utilizing cooperative contracts simplifies the procurement process, saves time and money, ensures compliance and makes purchasing seamless.

Kinetic GPO is also excited to announce a special offer to boost your municipal savings! **Enjoy a complimentary coffee and donut breakfast OR pizza party when you purchase from 5+ (breakfast) or 10+ (pizza party) Kinetic GPO contracts.** This promo runs now through December 31st. For additional information on this special offer, contact Nicole Wieser at nicole@kineticgpo.ca.

All of the contracts available through Kinetic GPO offer a variety of innovative, sustainable, and quality solutions for Canadian educators and public sector organizations.

For additional information please contact your Kinetic GPO Vice President of Member Experience and Business Development, **Dana MacDonald** at dana@kineticgpo.ca.

CLASSIFIEDS AND GRANTS



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- [Town of Hudson Bay](#): *Director of Public Works* (October 10)
- [SUMAssure Insurance Reciprocal](#): *Risk Manager* (October 14)
- [Town of LaRonge](#): *Manager of Public Works* (November 1)
- [City of Weyburn](#): *Superintendent of Water Treatment* (November 2)
- [Town of Colonsay](#): *Administrator* (November 29)
- [Town of Bengough](#): *Chief Administrative Officer* (November 30)
- [Town of Battleford](#): *Manager of Public Works* (January 2, 2026)
- [Resort Village of Alice Beach](#): *Administrator* (until filled)
- [RM of Fish Creek No. 402](#): *Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)
- [Town of Wakaw](#): *Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)
- [RM of Sherwood No. 159](#): *Manager of Finance* (until filled)
- [Town of Rosetown](#): *Chief Administrative Officer* (until filled)

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.

SUMA | suma.org
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