

URBAN Update

March 25, 2019



Infrastructure Funding Available through Investing In Canada Infrastructure Program

Until **April 30**, Saskatchewan hometowns can submit their infrastructure projects for initial consideration under the [Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program](#).

The program is providing more than \$896 million in federal funding for all types of Saskatchewan infrastructure projects over the next 10 years.

Funding is available for community, culture, and recreation, public transit, green infrastructure, and rural and northern communities.

Municipalities are encouraged to [submit an expression of interest \(EOI\)](#) for all projects that are considered a priority and that the municipality would be prepared to start in the next five years. A separate EOI must be submitted for each project. The EOI is not an application for funding, but based on EOI information, some projects may be identified to complete a detailed application for immediate funding consideration. Questions on how to prepare an EOI? See the [EOI Guide](#).

A full, more detailed application intake is expected in late 2019.

Eligible projects include:

- Landfill expansion
- Landfill decommissioning
- Brownfield remediation
- Renewable energy generation
- Water treatment systems
- Wastewater collection systems
- Libraries
- Multi-purpose facilities
- Road improvements
- Airport improvements

[See a full list of projects](#)



Highlights from the Provincial and Federal Budgets

How do last week's provincial and federal budgets impact Saskatchewan's hometowns?

Provincial Budget

As announced at the 2019 SUMA Convention, municipal revenue sharing is increasing by \$10

million to \$25 million for 2019-20. The budget also provides for shared infrastructure funding, an increase in transit assistance funding, and investment in Saskatchewan's northern highways.

SUMA is disappointed that PST will continue to be placed on municipal construction projects, and that the budget does not share revenue from the cannabis excise tax. We will continue to advocate for changes to both.



Federal Budget

The federal budget provides a one-time top-up of \$2.2 billion through the federal gas tax fund for municipalities. Another \$1.01 billion is to be distributed through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Green Municipal Fund.

The budget also proposes a plan to deliver up to \$6 billion in new investment in rural broadband over the next 10 years.



Be in the Know - Join the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network

Help foster resilient hometowns by joining the [Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network](#).

Through the network, the RCMP and its partner agencies have the ability to communicate directly with the public on matters of crime prevention and community safety. Citizens can sign up to receive advisories from their local RCMP detachments by text message, email, or phone.

[Join the Saskatchewan Crime Watch Advisory Network](#)



Share Your Feedback on the Municipal Peer Network

Have you contacted a mentor through the [Saskatchewan Municipal Peer Network](#)?

Share your feedback by taking a short survey. The survey will help evaluate if the network is working for municipal administrators and elected officials.

The information gathered from the survey will be sent to the Ministry of Government Relations where it will be analyzed and used by the Advisory Committee of the Municipal Peer Network and the peer mentors to assist making future decisions for the program.

[Take the survey](#)

Upcoming SUMA Webinars

This April, SUMA is pleased to offer two great webinars. Have your say in how we overcome barriers to participation in municipal politics in **Toward Parity at the Council Table**, and learn best



responses to lawsuits in **What To Do When You're Sued**.

Toward Parity at the Council Table

At Convention 2019, the education session "Women in the Game" highlighted the vital role women have on council. But a SUMA study of newly elected council members in 2016 found that women only occupy 14 per cent of mayors positions and 28 per cent of councillors' seats in Saskatchewan.

Join SUMA and Stephanie Hoey, project manager with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to hear about the move to greater equality and have your say in how we overcome barriers to participation in municipal politics. Take in this **FREE** webinar on **April 3 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Register for
Toward Parity at the
Council Table**

What To Do When You're Sued

Being taken to court can be stressful and confusing - it's hard trying to properly respond to allegations while navigating the litigation process. In this SUMA webinar, Jennifer Pereira, QC, will discuss the best responses to lawsuits, and what you can do to protect your municipality, prepare your case, and avoid unnecessary costs.

Take in this webinar on **April 16 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Register for
What To Do
When You're Sued**

For more information on these webinars, and other educational opportunities, visit our [event listing](#).

Convention 2019: Sessions on YouTube

Is there a presentation from Convention 2019 that you want to see again, or maybe take in for the first time? Recordings from Convention are now available for viewing on the web. Visit our [Convention 2019 playlist](#) on YouTube to see the full list.

Convention 2020: Theme Ideas

The Convention 2019 theme, *Hometown Advantage*, was a success. Now we're looking for the next great idea to set the tone for 2020.

If you have a theme idea, please email it to events@suma.org. We greatly value your suggestions, and read every one. Plus, if you submit a theme idea, you will be entered to win a prize.

New Energy Saving Tools for Municipalities

Until **March 31**, municipalities can

Economic Development Conference

The old adage 'economic

obtain a free, one-year subscription to an energy saving tool.

The RETScreen Division of Natural Resources Canada is offering a free one-year trial for the Professional Mode of RETScreen Expert to energy and facility managers of Canadian public and para-public sector organizations.

RETScreen helps decision-makers identify, assess, and optimize the technical and financial viability of potential clean energy projects. It also allows managers to easily measure and verify the performance of their facilities and helps find additional energy savings and production opportunities.

[Learn more](#)

development is everyone's business' rings true today in Saskatchewan. With fiscal restraints and an absence of economic development programs, it is 'all hands on deck' if we want to retain and grow our existing business base and keep improving quality of life for all Saskatchewan residents.

The Saskatchewan Economic Development Association (SEDA) and Saskatchewan First Nations Economic Development Network will be hosting their 2019 [Intersections for Growth Conference May 1-2](#) in Regina. The annual conference is the intersect for those with a vested interest in the future of their communities and province. More than 25 presenters will inform, inspire, and prepare you for the future. Early registration discounts available until **March 29**.

Events



Upcoming Events

SUMA Webinar: Toward Parity at the Council Table
April 3

SUMA Webinar: What To Do When You're Sued
April 16

SUMA Workshop
May 8
More information to come

Town and Village Sector Meeting
May 9
More information to come

What webinar topic most interests you?

The global recycling market (China ban)

[Select](#)

Decommissioning landfills

[Select](#)

Employment law

[Select](#)

Resolving governance conflicts

[Select](#)

Protecting municipal property - trespassing to easements

Select

Dealing with difficult residents

Select

A how-to on bylaw prosecutions

Select

Classifieds and Grants



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Town of Alameda: *Assistant Foreman* (April 15)
- District of Katepwa: *Chief Administrative Officer* (April 15)
- Resort Village of Grandview Beach: *Administrator* (April 25)
- RM of Rudy No. 284: *Administrator* (When filled)
- Village of Lipton: *Administrator* (When filled)
- Town of Hepburn: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)
- Town of La Ronge: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)
- Town of Valleyview: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)
- Town of Wadena: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)

Have a position to fill or an item to sell? [Submit your ad](#) on our website.

Find the latest listings by visiting the [SUMA Classifieds](#) section of our website, under the Programs and Services tab.



Grants

Upcoming Deadlines:

- Farm Credit Canada *AgriSpirit Fund* (March 29)
- SGI *Provincial Traffic Safety Fund Grant* (March 30)
- SaskCulture *Multicultural Initiatives Fund - Project Funding* (March 31)
- Community Initiatives Fund *Community Grant Program* (April 1)
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association *Community Cultural Diversity Inclusion Grant* (May 1)

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

**Thank you for reading this week's
Urban Update. We welcome your
comments.**

Join Our Mailing List

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