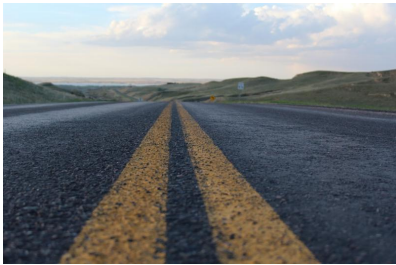


URBAN Update

August 12, 2019



What We Heard on Highway Improvement Fees

In the last edition of Urban Update we asked you to share your thoughts on the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure's Highway Improvement Fees. We wanted to know if you had heard about the proposed fees, if you were contacted to attend a consultation session, and whether you thought municipalities should be responsible for collecting the fees.

The survey has received **112 responses**. Here's what we heard:

- **More than three-quarters** of the municipalities that responded were not aware of the proposed Highway Improvement Fees;
- **88 per cent** of surveyed municipalities were not contacted by the Ministry of Highways to attend a consultation session on the proposed fees; and
- The **majority of respondents** were not in support of helping collect the Highway Improvement Fees, but some respondents said it could be feasible if municipalities received an administration fee.

More about the proposed fees

According to the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure, developments adjacent to a provincial highway generate potential traffic for the highway, and the highway might need improvements to enhance safety, capacity, level of service, and functional integrity. The ministry is planning to develop a policy for fee collection from new developments for highway improvements. Provincial legislation allows the ministry to collect fees from the developments to help carry out needed highway improvements to support the new developments.

Recently, the ministry organized consultation sessions for stakeholders, including municipalities, to discuss several options to consider for the policy. The ministry has proposed that municipalities collect and administer the fees.

SUMA has shared the initial survey results with the ministry. We have also directly encouraged the ministry to consult Saskatchewan's hometowns and SUMA as they move to develop a policy for highway improvement fees.



This October, to celebrate Women's History Month, SUMA will be highlighting local women in politics on our social media pages. And you could be featured!

If you or someone you know is a councillor or mayor in your municipality, we want to hear from you. Share your story by filling out this [short form](#) and sending it to [SUMA](#).

Don't forget to also send a photo!



SUMA Webinar: Recycling in Saskatchewan - Meeting Challenges and Seizing Opportunities

How and what we recycle is changing. China's recycling ban, the elimination of single use plastics, and the move to extended producer responsibility programs point to big challenges, but also bold new opportunities.

Join SUMA and Christine Thompson of Recycle Saskatchewan on **August 21 at 10 a.m.** for the webinar *Recycling in Saskatchewan - Meeting Challenges and Seizing Opportunities* to learn about the state of recycling in Saskatchewan today and in the future.

Register today for the webinar!



Protect Your Municipality from a Cyber Attack

Recently we've heard from municipalities who have been impacted by cyber attacks. To help minimize the chances of cyber attacks and security breaches in your municipality, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre recommends you:

- Avoid opening email attachments from unknown sources, especially .zip files. If the email appears to be from someone you know, but you're not sure about the content, call before you click;
- Ensure your anti-virus software is active and up-to-date. Regularly schedule scans to search and remove already existing malware;
- Keep your operating system and software up-to-date;
- Make regular backups of important files; and
- Be vigilant against clicking on links or attachments within emails.

To learn more about cyber attacks and security, see [this article](#) from *Urban Voice*. And don't forget to check out the resources available from the [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#).



Municipal Symposium Recap

Thank you to all the SUMA members who attended the SUMA Municipal Symposium in Moose Jaw July 28-30.

Over three days, approximately 60 delegates explored what municipalities will look like in 20 to 30 years. The symposium explored the topics of governance, infrastructure, and public safety as they relate to municipal economic development.

A Sunday evening dinner kicked off the





event and included a keynote address from Pierre-Yves Bourduas and results from the MNP 2019 Western Canadian Local Government Innovation Survey.

Monday and Tuesday featured presentations, panel discussions, and breakout sessions.

Thank you again to all those who attended the symposium and examined the changes being experienced by municipalities and how local governments are responding now and in the future.

Free Asset Management Webinars

Take your first steps toward a solid understanding of asset management by signing up for free asset management webinars. Asset Management Saskatchewan is offering the free webinar series *The Building Blocks of the Asset Management Process*. This three-part series of one-hour webinars focuses on key areas of asset management. The first webinar is happening **Monday, September 23**.

For more information about Asset Management Saskatchewan and to register for the webinars, visit www.assetmanagementsk.ca.

Share Your Green Success Story

Is your municipality a leader in climate action? Are you interested in sharing your community's experience globally while you advance ambitious climate goals?

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability are accepting applications for the Global Covenant of Mayors Canada Showcase Cities pilot project.

[Learn more.](#)

The deadline to apply is **September 13**.

Advocacy Update



Flood Mitigation Programming

The Water Security Agency has transitioned the Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program to the Flood Damage Reduction Program, effective August 1.

The new program, as advocated for by SUMA, provides cost share funding for implementing proactive flood damage prevention or reduction

measures for hometowns that face a risk of suffering recurrent flood damage in the future. The Emergency Flood Damage Reduction Program dealt only with imminent flood risk.

Proposals for the Flood Damage Reduction Program are being accepted in four categories:

- hydrologic and or hydraulic investigations to develop risk assessments;
- flood mapping projects;
- mitigation planning; and
- structural projects.

Eligible projects will be cost-shared on a 50/50 basis between the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency and the community.

Apply by September 15.

Learn more

Events



Upcoming Events

SUMA Webinar: Recycling in Saskatchewan - Meeting Challenges and Seizing Opportunities
August 21

Regional Meetings
October 1-9

Convention 2020: Building Sustainable Hometowns
February 2-5

We're planning education sessions for Convention 2020. What topic most interests you?

Emergency response and disaster mitigation

Select

Dealing with privacy

Select

Reconciliation

Select

Solid waste strategy

Select

Municipal procurement

Select

Making fair decisions

Select

Council succession planning

Select

Waste reduction - plastics and organics

Select

Classifieds and Grants



Classifieds

Positions Available:

- Town of Fort Qu'Appelle: *Chief Administrative Officer* (August 15)
- Town of Gravelbourg: *Maintenance Worker* (August 26)
- Town of Kerrobert: *Operations Team Leader* (August 29)
- Town of Pilot Butte: *Chief Administrative Officer* (August 29)
- City of Meadow Lake: *Director of Finance/City Treasurer* (September 6)
- RM of Hoodoo: *Administrator* (October 1)
- Town of Creighton: *Public Works Foreman* (When filled)
- R.M. of Frenchman Butte No. 501: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)
- Town of La Ronge: *Chief Administrative Officer* (When filled)

For Sale:

- Boreal Area Regional Waste Authority *selling items*

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:

- Water Security Agency *Flood Damage Reduction Program* (September 15)
- Government of Saskatchewan *Targeted Sector Support - Expression of Interest* (September 30)
- SGI *Provincial Traffic Safety Fund* (September 30)
- Community Initiatives Fund *Community Grant Program - Annual Grant* (October 1)
- SaskCulture *Multicultural Initiatives Fund - Project Funding* (October 15)
- SGI *Community Grant Program* (October 31)
- SaskCulture *Museum Grant Program* (November 30)
- Richardson International Ltd. *Community Donations* (Year-round)

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](#)

SUMA
Unit 305 - 4741 Parliament Ave. Regina, SK
306-525-3727
suma@suma.org
suma.org

