

Convention agenda finalized!

The agenda for the SUMA 2012 convention, to be held in Regina from January 29 - February 1, has been finalized. To access the final agenda, including room designations for the various sessions, [download it here](#) or visit the SUMA website.

First time at convention? No problem!

To provide assistance to convention first-timers, SUMA staff has compiled a list of what to expect when you attend the annual event.

Download your copy of the [SUMA Convention First Timers](#) document here.

Stars of Saskatchewan featured at Sunday night gala

Saskatchewan talent will shine brightly during this year's Sunday night gala, titled Stars of Saskatchewan. Join SUMA as we feature the headline act for Sunday night - Chasity Dawn, hailing from Martensville, Saskatchewan with opening acts of local talent that will feature Tenille Arts and Kristian Wenaus.

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Quote of the Week:

"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves."

- Bill Vaughn

Municipal Links

[My Healthy Community Grant](#)

The Heart and Stroke Fund's My

Saskatchewan's "Stars" are not only entertainers - enjoy sampling and experiencing food from thriving local businesses and mingling amongst Saskatchewan's top athletes!

"Stars of Saskatchewan" will be held Sunday, January 29 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in Salon ABC of the Queensbury Convention Centre. It will feature light appetizers and a cash bar. Those in attendance will be given the chance to win the grand prize of a trip to escape the one downfall of Saskatchewan - the prairie winters! Thanks to the generosity of our regions, there will also be chances to win gift baskets that will allow you to experience Saskatchewan from border to border. Gift baskets are worth up to \$500! Get ready for a night of fun and be prepared to leave glowing with "prairie pride"!

Celebrate excellence at the President's Banquet

On Tuesday, January 31, the President's Banquet will acknowledge SUMA's finest; long-serving elected officials and dedicated municipal employees. Nominees are individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to outstanding service; who have improved the quality of life for residents of their communities; and who have contributed to the advancement of local government in Saskatchewan.

Following the awards program, Saskatchewan's own, Brigitte Gall, is sure to bring laughter to her home audience. Her comedic performance will touch on her wit and wry observations of growing up on the prairies and being a municipal councillor herself!

Tickets are still available for \$50 per person; contact the SUMA office.

Plan to bring your water bottle!

Don't forget to help SUMA make our convention a "green" one – bring your own reusable water bottle with you to the event. Water coolers will be located throughout the facility.

P3 Guide for municipalities

Healthy Community Grant was designed to help groups and organizations develop and deliver projects that will make a healthy difference, with a particular focus on children, youth and families.

Grants up to \$4,000 per community will be allotted (on a partnership basis). Full details are provided in the website linked above.

Do you have a suggestion for the Municipal Link? Send it along to communications@suma.org.

Have you looked at SUMA's list of available grants lately?

To access a current list of grants available to municipalities and communities, see [the SUMA grants page](#).

CMHC Sask Housing Outlook Conference

Feb. 14, 2012
Radisson Hotel Saskatoon
Saskatoon, SK

Saskatchewan's growing economy is placing pressure on the housing market. Join CMHC to learn about the key factors shaping the province's markets in 2012 and beyond. The workshop will provide you with information needed to make informed and sound decisions to plan for the future.

For details and registration, visit the website at <http://bit.ly/dcky2u>.

Crimestoppers

A guide is now available for those municipalities considering public-private partnerships for the first time. Published by the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships (CCPPP) in collaboration with PPP Canada, the guide helps to demystify the P3 model and provides a wealth of information, including a project roadmap.

The 69-page guide lists the benefits and differences between traditional procurement and P3s, implementation steps, federal and provincial support programs, case studies, lessons learned and best practices from municipalities in Canada and abroad. Copies can be ordered through CCPPP's website.

Communities in Bloom Program Development Workshop

The Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association is pleased to offer two Workshops one in Regina, January 21, 2012 and Saskatoon, January 28, 2012. Past, present and new Communities in Bloom participants, current and potential CiB volunteers, civic staff, elected officials, educators, community activists, youth, adults, seniors, community groups and service clubs are all invited to a day-long Workshop to "Get You Ready for 2012".

You will learn about:

- What the Communities in Bloom program is all about
- How volunteers can be recruited and sustained
- What has worked in various communities to achieve success
- What is the evaluation program
- Who are the judges
- Why should photographic and written records be kept
- How to plant and maintain fabulous flower containers

Download the Registration Form here.

For further information, contact Barry Rogers, Workshop Facilitator, by email at wildrose@cyberlink.sk.ca, or by phone (250) 422-3403, or contact the SPRA office at

Ponteix RCMP responded to the Vanguard community school, Vanguard, Saskatchewan for a complaint of mischief during the weekend of October 14. A tractor tire was found on the roof of the school. This means persons were on the roof, which can be very dangerous. As well, the damage that was caused will cost taxpayers a significant amount for the repairs. The RCMP are asking for the public's help in solving this incident or any other criminal incident.

Anyone with information is requested to call Saskatchewan Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

SUMA Classifieds

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

*Town of Fort Qu'Appelle:
Administrator (January 5)*

*Town of Hanley: Public Works
Foreman (January 16)*

*SPRA: Communications Consultant
(January 16)*

*Village of Wilcox: Village Maintenance
Foreman (When Filled)*

*Village of Wilcox: Administrator
(When Filled)*

*City of Lloydminster: Project
Technician (When Filled)*

*Town of Rosetown: Administrator
(January 13)*

*Town of Biggar: Assistant
Administrator (When Filled)*

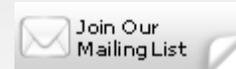
1-800-563-2555.

*Town of Wynyard: Waterworks
Foreman (January 3)*

*Town of Tisdale: Level II
Utilities Technician (When Filled)*

*Town of Neepawa: Chief
Administrative Officer (When Filled)*

*For more details on any of these ads,
visit the [SUMA Classifieds](#).*



About Us

We'd like to thank you for reading the Urban Update this week and we welcome your comments.

SUMA

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Did You Know...

What town was named for Ishbel Maria Marjoribanks Gordon, founder of the National Council of Women of Canada?

The Town of Aberdeen. Mrs. Gordon was also known as Lady Aberdeen.