

Preparing to Work with New Cabinet on Growth Agenda

Premier Brad Wall reorganized provincial cabinet on Friday, May 25. SUMA will actively engage the new cabinet over the coming week by sending letters of congratulations to new ministers and ministers moving to new portfolios, and requesting meetings with each minister over the summer to discuss the priorities of urban governments.

We want to engage you in our ongoing lobbying efforts with the province. We appreciate your perspective on options we should consider, and suggestions on how SUMA can advance our shared interests. One way of doing this is to contact the [SUMA Shadow Cabinet representative](#) for a particular portfolio.

More information on the reorganization of cabinet and SUMA's preparation to work with ministers is available [on our website](#).

Group Benefit Rate Change July 1, 2012

This is a reminder that the rate changes for the 2012 year will take effect July 1, 2012.

The decision to postpone the rate change from January to July

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Quote of the Week:

Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.

Margaret Fuller

SUMA Classifieds

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

was due to SUMA implementing a new software program to administer the program. The conversion to the new system is complete.

Clients did not see a change in the rate from January through June. Statements for July through December will reflect a charge for double the rate change. This will apply to the 2012 year only, and in January of 2013, regular rates will resume.

Clients will also see a change in the appearance of their monthly statements in July due to our new system.

We appreciate your understanding and co-operation during this period of transition. Should you have any questions, please contact the Group Benefits office at gis@suma.org or (306) 525-4390.

Municipal Election Supplies

As a service to our member municipalities, 2012 municipal election supplies and ballot order forms are now available on the SUMA website. [Click here](#) to access the forms. Election resources are available on the [Municipal Affairs](#) website.

Procurement Rules for Municipalities

As of July 1, 2012, procurement for goods, services, and construction above specific thresholds will need to be posted on the [SaskTenders website](#). Under the New West Partnership Trade Agreement (NWPTA), procurement of goods or services above \$75,000 and construction above \$200,000 must be conducted openly and transparently to ensure equal opportunity for suppliers in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

Additional information on procurement obligations under the NWP can be found on the [NWPTA website](#). A [copy of the NWPTA](#) and [FAQs](#) are available online. If you need training or support to use SaskTenders, contact the Ministry of

[Town of Porcupine Plain: Foreman](#)
(June 22)

[Northern Village of Air Ronge:](#)
[Administrator](#) (Until Filled)

[Village of Goodsoil: Administrator](#)
(Until Filled)

For more details on any of these ads, visit the [SUMA Classifieds](#) under the Urban Marketplace tab.

2012 SUMA Golf Tournament July 12-13 in North Battleford

Plan to join your fellow SUMA members and staff at the 24th Annual SUMA Golf Tournament to be held in **North Battleford** - note change of location.

Registration is now open!
Information pamphlet including the registration form is [here](#).



About Us

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

SUMA
200-2222 13th Ave.

Municipal Alcohol Policy

The Alcohol Policy Network—a program of the Ontario Public Health Association—is looking for communities that have developed a municipal alcohol policy. In their simplest form, municipal alcohol policies have been developed to manage alcohol use in municipal recreation facilities and on municipal property.

If your municipality has developed a policy, please contact Sean McEachern at smceachern@suma.org.

FCM Explains Impact of Changes to Fisheries Act

The Federal Budget Implementation Act contains major changes to Canada's existing environmental legislation, including important amendments to the Fisheries Act which will have a range of implications for communities. FCM supports specific common-sense reforms to the Fisheries Act but also maintains that important questions relating to environmental protection remain to be answered. Visit the [Environment - Water](#) section of FCM's website to learn more about these changes and what they mean for communities.

FCM Workshop: Municipal Campaign Training for Women Regina - June 9-10

The United Nations defines 30 per cent as the minimal percentage of women required for government to reflect women's concerns. While women make up 52 per cent of the Canadian population, only 24 per cent are elected

CBC Switching Off Transmitters

The CBC and Radio-Canada plan to switch off more than 600 analog transmitters on July 31, 2012. Residents of all Saskatchewan municipalities outside Regina will lose free access to the CBC and Radio-Canada over the air using bunny ears or rooftop antennae unless affected communities choose to maintain the CBC/Radio-Canada transmitters and towers themselves. In many cases, this infrastructure can also be used to distribute high-speed Internet, cell phone service, and a local community TV or radio channel.

The Canadian Association of Community Television Users and Stations (CACTUS) is encouraging municipalities to ask for local CBC and Radio-Canada transmission equipment before it is scrapped. Until June 18, the CRTC is taking comments from the public about what should happen to CBC/Radio-Canada transmitters. Affected communities can write in to ask the CRTC and CBC to make the transmitters available for local use.

For more information, visit [the CACTUS website](#).

municipal politicians: 16 per cent of mayors and 25 per cent of councillors. Based on current statistics, Canada would need more than 1400 more women elected to municipal office to reach the 30 per cent target. This represents an increase of approximately 100 women every year for the next 15 years.

The two-day workshop will cover a wide range of topics, including: deciding to run, financing the campaign, campaign ethics, canvassing, public speaking, and media training.

Full details and registration [here](#).

Did You Know...

Yorkton hosts the longest-running short film festival in North America. The Yorkton Film Festival celebrated 65 Years of Film and handed out 29 Golden Sheaf Awards at this year's festival, held May 24-27.