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**For Immediate Release**

### **SUMA Excited for the Next Step Toward Recycling Program**

The Ministry of Environment announced today that the Multi-Material Recycling Program (MMRP) regulations were approved last week. Urban governments have been waiting for this since 2005, when the MMRP was first advocated by SUMA. For the last eight years, SUMA worked with industry, the ministry and other stakeholders to develop the draft regulations.

The approval of the regulations means Multi-Material Stewardship Western Inc. representing industry will have 180 days to develop the Product Management Plan (PMP) and submit it to the Minister of Environment for approval. The PMP is a plan that will outline how industry is going to handle the recycling of the four designated materials – paper, tin, glass and plastic – and the governance structure of the MMRP.

A local government working group with representatives from SUMA, the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and the Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan will be consulted on the PMP and have the chance to review the program plan before it is submitted. A local government committee will be created in the PMP to ensure that any issues affecting local governments will be vetted through the committee for recommendations.

“Last week during Convention, SUMA members consistently told us the MMRP is important,” said SUMA President Debra Button. “We look forward to working with our partners, industry and the ministry to develop a program plan over the next 180 days and implement the program as soon as possible.”

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For more information visit <http://www.suma.org/>, or to arrange an interview please contact:

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*Founded in 1905, SUMA is the voice of urban Saskatchewan. Collectively, our members represent 82% of the people of Saskatchewan.*