

# Urban Update



The bi-weekly e-newsletter from the Voice of Urban Saskatchewan

Issue No. 13-05

February 25, 2013

## Advocacy Funding

At Convention 2013, delegates had the chance to provide feedback to Board members on the proposal to increase membership fees to create a dedicated pool of funding to advance SUMA's advocacy work.

Feedback was generally very supportive, but there were several key messages that shaped the SUMA Board of Directors' ultimate decision. The Board chose to move forward with an increase in fees, phased in over two years, with an opportunity for members to decide at Convention 2016 whether or not to continue the advocacy funding beyond the 2016 membership year. SUMA will identify measurable outcomes for the advocacy funding, and report on these outcomes to the SUMA membership regularly, including at all regional meetings and annual conventions.

More details on the decision and the complete resolution approved by the Board, are available [on the SUMA website](#).

## Municipal Tax Tools

Last week the Ministry of Government Relations issued a notice regarding a recent legal interpretation. Their legal interpretation is that local governments are not permitted to apply a different minimum or base tax amount to a parcel of land without improvements. The rate established by a local

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### Quote of the Week:

**Accept what you cannot change.**

**Change what you cannot accept.**

**Unknown**

### SUMA Classifieds

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

government must be the same across all properties within a property class (residential).

SUMA is aware of this matter and has been in contact with the ministry. As we said in an email sent in January, we believe that the opinion obtained by the government may not be correct.

We fully understand the issue and realize the complications that can arise due to this change in policy. We are working with Government Relations to explore what options are available, and are prepared to seek another legal opinion if a speedy resolution cannot be found.

We will keep you informed as this file progresses.

## Saskatchewan Cities Driving Growth

According to the Conference Board of Canada, Saskatoon and Regina will be the fastest growing metropolitan growth, not just in Saskatchewan, but across the country. The best news: it's not just a "boom."

The report says the leading city, Saskatoon, should expect Real GDP growth of 3.7 per cent as the construction and services sectors "thrive." Regina's GDP forecast comes in a close second at 3.5 per cent, "building further on three exceptionally strong years."

Read more on this story in [the Leader-Post](#) .

## Convention Lost and Found

As we cleaned up after Convention earlier this month, we turned up several items left behind by attendees.

- Portfolio
- Computer power cord/charger
- Mittens
- Scarf
- Keys
- Cell phone holder

*Town of Fort Qu'Appelle: Economic Development Officer/Regional Events Coordinator (February 28)*

*Town of LeRoy: Planning and Development Officer (March 1)*

*Village of Gainsborough: Village Foreman (March 7)*

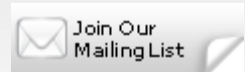
*Town of Coronach: Utilities and Public Works Foreman (March 13)*

*Town of Lashburn: Assistant Administrator (March 15)*

*Town of Valleyview: Engineering Assistant/Construction Manager (Until Filled)*

*Town of Dalmeny: Public Works Operator (Until Filled)*

For more details on these ads, visit the *SUMA Classifieds* under the *Urban Marketplace* tab.



## 8th Annual Watershed Conference

The Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds (SAW) is the provincial volunteer non-profit organization that provides the communication and support for the watersheds and aquifer committees within the province.

If you lost any of the above items, email [Kelly Krupp](mailto:Kelly.Krupp) or call 306-545-4391 with a description.

## Renewed Partnership with Signal Industries



Regina-based sign provider Signal Industries is a long-time SUMA Advantage partner, but recently the program has undertaken some changes to the benefit of SUMA members.

The discount provided by Signal Industries used to be on only standard signs; now the discount applies to all products sold by Signal Industries. SUMA members can contact Signal Industries directly to place orders and to calculate what your SUMA discount will be you can use the [pricing calculator](#). See more information on this program [on the SUMA website](#).

## Save \$100 per Tire!



As a valued Michelin National Account Customer, SUMA members already receive special pricing from Michelin. For the months of February and March 2013, an additional \$100 discount will be applied to each X SnoPlus purchased as per the table below.

Product Code	Size	Discount
53173	1400 R 24 X SNOPLUS	\$100
99466	17.5 R 25 X SNOPLUS	\$100
62408	20.5 R 25 X SNOPLUS	\$100
74539	23.5 R 25 X SNOPLUS	\$100

Michelin Tires can be purchased at Kal Tire, Saskatoon Wholesale Tire and Graham's Tire with the SUMA account #0337378. For a price quote contact Tania Meier, Event &

The 8th Annual Watershed Conference is taking place at the Moose Jaw Heritage Inn April 9-10, 2013, offering a wide range of discussions and presentations about how Saskatchewan people can get involved in water-management issues. Experts will offer their perspective on conserving and protecting source water. In addition to a tradeshow, there will be plenty of networking opportunities for delegates.

The conference theme this year is "Think Globally, Act Locally" and Bob Sandford will be the keynote speaker for the conference with a presentation entitled Storm Warning: Assuring Water and Climate Security in the Canadian West.

As part of the conference, delegates have the option of attending a free tour of the Burrowing Owl Interpretive Centre, purchasing tickets for a Tunnels of Moose Jaw tour or participating in a free Buffalo Pound Water Treatment Plant tour.

More information, including an agenda and the chance to register, can be found on [the SAW website](#).

**Preparing for**

## Urban Update Advertiser:



## JACOBS BAG CORP. - Canada

- Ability to serve all sandbag & sandbagger needs – regardless of the quantity
- Best price – we supply the little guys...buy direct to save
- One stop vendor – no need to buy from multiples due to small inventory levels (save \$\$\$)
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Contact Jason Eisner  
[jacobsbagcorp@gmail.com](mailto:jacobsbagcorp@gmail.com) [www.911sandbags.com](http://www.911sandbags.com)

## Convention 2014

The [list of participating hotels for 2014](#) is now available on our website if you're ready to book for next year.

### 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...

Most of Saskatchewan is in the Central Standard Time Zone, and does not observe Daylight Saving Time. The exceptions?

- Lloydminster uses Mountain Time.
- Denare Beach and Creighton use Daylight Savings Time.