

# Urban Update



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

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March 11, 2013

## SUMA Policy Team Staffing Changes

This is a good news/bad news story, with an opportunity at the end.

*First, the bad news...*

Mark Cooper, SUMA's Director of Policy and Communication Services since August 2009, is leaving SUMA. He is off to become the next President/CEO of the Saskatchewan Construction Association. He was vital to advancing the strategic focus of SUMA's advocacy work and connecting with members. Here at SUMA we all wish him well in his next adventure. If you'd like to get a hold of Mark, you can email him at [president@scaonline.ca](mailto:president@scaonline.ca).

*Now the good news...*

Sean McEachern is now SUMA's new Director of Policy and Communication Services. Previously, Sean served as SUMA's Senior Policy Advisor. He has been with SUMA since 2006. Before joining SUMA, Sean spent three years as a Special Assistant to the former federal Minister of Finance, the Honourable Ralph Goodale. Sean holds a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Regina. In his time here, you've probably engaged with Sean through one of his various policy files. He has handled the public safety file, the health file, SAMA, asset management, infrastructure, and others. Sean is an expert in Board governance, and has led

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### Quote of the Week:

**Dreams must be heeded and accepted. For a great many of them come true.**

**Paracelsus**

## SUMA Classifieds

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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

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

*Town of Kerrobert: Town Administrator (March 15)*

*Town of Spiritwood: Administrative Assistant (March 15)*

*Town of Spiritwood: Public Works Labourer (March 18)*

*City of Martensville: Director of Infrastructure Services & Planning (March 22)*

*SUMA: Policy Advisor (March 28)*

*Town of Watrous: Recreation Director (April 3)*

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

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

*City of Meadow Lake: City Manager (Until Filled)*

*Village of Pierceland: Administrator (Until Filled)*

*Village of Fillmore: Administrator (Until Filled)*

*Town of Arcola: Town Administrator (Until Filled)*

*For more details on these ads, visit the*

the SUMA resolutions process for many years.

When he's not busy with SUMA, Sean is actively involved in the community as the former President of the UofR Students' Union and the UofR Alumni Association. Sean is currently the Chair of his church council and is a director on the Regina Airport Authority. In his role at SUMA, Sean also sits on the Board of Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers. Please join all of us here at SUMA in congratulating Sean on his new role as Director. You can reach Sean by email at [smceachern@suma.org](mailto:smceachern@suma.org).

*And finally the opportunity...*

With all of these changes, it means that SUMA now has a staff opening for a new Policy Advisor. For more information you can contact Sean or see the job ad [on our website](#).

## Missed the Newly Elected Workshop?

The Newly Elected Workshop session that took place on Sunday, February 3 is available from SUMA on disc for \$25.00 plus shipping. The workshop covered the following topics:

- Urban Councils and Council Meeting
- The Council-Administration Dynamic
- Municipal Law
- Wise Stewardship
- SUMA & UMAAS

Links to the order form, agenda, presentations and the Elected Officials Handbook (an excellent companion to the workshop) are available [on our website](#). Questions and inquiries can be directed to Tania Meier at [tmeier@suma.org](mailto:tmeier@suma.org) or 306-525-4379.

## The Local Government Election Act Consultation

Recently, you would have received an email or written communication from the Ministry of Government Relations

seeking feedback on the recent changes to *The Local Government Election Act*. The Ministry wants to know whether you encountered any difficulties in administering any of the new provisions, and whether you have suggestions for further refinements from your recent experience using the new provisions.

Specific areas of interest are:

- **voter identification;**
- **vouching;**
- **mail-in ballots;**
- **voters' lists; and**
- **urban and rural provisions/differences:** In the next set of amendments to the Act, the Ministry would like to consider whether it is feasible to consolidate the urban and rural provisions on any particular topic or election matter into the same section of the Act. The Ministry has heard this may be desirable given the many cases of joint administration of urban and rural municipalities.

SUMA encourages all members to participate in this consultation as your feedback will determine whether any changes are needed before the next municipal election in 2016.

The consultation form can be found on [the Ministry's website](#).

If you have any questions or comments you would like to discuss, please contact Elizabeth Kalmakoff, Senior Legislative Analyst, at [elizabeth.kalmakoff@gov.sk.ca](mailto:elizabeth.kalmakoff@gov.sk.ca) or 306-787-3515.



## How Can SWEEP Help?

Your municipality can play an important role in keeping end-of-life electronic (EOLE) products out of your disposal sites through active participation in collection events and promoting responsible recycling of electronics through the Saskatchewan Waste Electronic Equipment Program (SWEEP). SWEEP would like to partner groups that want to divert EOLE from their landfills. One way communities can contribute to this goal is by hosting a SWEEP Special Take Back Event. SWEEP will support your event by supplying promotion and marketing material, packaging and logistics.

SWEEP can also support your awareness campaigns by providing free items as brochures that could be distributed through usual municipal mailings. SWEEP wants to partner with you in other ways to inform your residents and businesses of

## Registration Open for Municipal Infrastructure Conference

Check [the Municipal Infrastructure Conference website](#) for the newly released conference agenda, registration and accommodation information. The conference will take place April 24-25 in Humboldt. With the theme Learn. Lead. Grow., it is the first conference dedicated to municipal infrastructure

issues in Saskatchewan communities and rural municipalities with populations of less than 40,000.

This event is a great opportunity for municipal leaders to discuss best practices, co-operative solutions and the benefits of asset management and financial planning. The agenda includes presentations not only from a local and provincial perspective but from a national perspective as well.

The Conference planning team looks forward to seeing you in Humboldt.

the SWEEP program and the importance of reusing or recycling EOLE through environmentally and socially responsible means.

For more information please visit [the SWEEP website](#) or contact Kris Mihilewicz at 306-373-9337 or [kris@swepit.ca](mailto:kris@swepit.ca).

## Apply for Grants - Upcoming Deadlines

SUMA has long advocated for sustainable funding for community airports. In 2010, the SUMA Board of Directors endorsed a policy advocating for additional funding for airport infrastructure in southern Saskatchewan. The Community Airport Partnership (CAP) program has since received a much-needed boost to continue building links among Saskatchewan and national and international markets. Please take advantage of this program for your regional community airport. Our members identified the renewal of this program as a priority, and so we want to make sure that all of the available money gets used up.

The deadline for CAP applications is Monday April 1, 2013. Further detailed information on the 2013-2014 CAP Program and Application Guidelines is available on [the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure website](#).

### Other grants with upcoming deadlines:

[Community Grant Program](#) (April 1)

[Community Vitality Program](#) (April 1)

[PAGP Physical Activity Grant](#) (April 1)

[Problem Gambling Prevention and Treatment Grants](#) (April 1)

[Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage](#) (April 30)

## 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

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

## Yorkton Hosting Flood Seminar

The City of Yorkton and the Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Saskatchewan, are co-hosting

**Urban Update Advertiser:**



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Contact Jason Eisner  
[jacobsbagcorp@gmail.com](mailto:jacobsbagcorp@gmail.com) [www.911sandbags.com](http://www.911sandbags.com)

a seminar on flood management and mitigation. The seminar is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27 in Yorkton.

Check [the agenda](#), and find more information, including how to register, and group hotel reservations in [the invitation](#).

### 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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<http://www.suma.org>

### Did You Know...

In our last issue, we talked about places in Saskatchewan that don't observe Central Standard Time. We told you that Lloydminster uses Mountain Standard Time, but a member contacted us to say that Marshall, Lashburn, Waseca, Maidstone and Paynton also change their time to MST, with the dividing line at Paynton.