

Urban Update



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

Issue No. 13-22

October 21, 2013

Regional Meetings Thank You

We've wrapped up another round of Regional Meetings. SUMA staff visited seven member municipalities, along with President Button, and the Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Government Relations, Kevin Phillips. Photos from our provincial tour are available on our [Regional Meetings page](#) on the SUMA website.

Thanks to all the host communities for your hospitality, and everyone who attended. It was a valuable opportunity for SUMA to get your feedback, hear your issues, and talk to you face to face. We look forward to seeing you all at Convention 2014, and at Regional Meetings again next year!

A Greener SUMA:

Online Registration for Convention

Convention 2014 will launch a major change in how you register to attend. SUMA will no longer mail you paper registration packages; instead, you will register online.

The link for registration, a brochure, and instructions on how to register will be available the first week in November. We will post them to the [Convention 2014 page](#), and send them directly to the email address we have on file for each municipality. Watch your inbox and the SUMA website for those details!

In This Issue

[Regional Meetings Thank You](#)

[Online Registration for Convention](#)

[Consultation Reminder](#)

[Get Ready for Building Canada Fund](#)

[SUMA and SARM Discuss Provincial Growth](#)

[Start Rolling on Resolutions](#)

[Trans Canada Trail Needs You](#)

[Keeping Up With saskdocs](#)

[FAQs on Municipal Governance](#)

[Upcoming Grant Deadlines](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Did you know. . .](#)

FAQs On Municipal Governance

If you missed any of the FAQs on Municipal Governance, check them out on our website today:

- [Can a mayor or reeve vote on resolutions at a council meeting?](#)
- [When paying their property taxes, can a taxpayer specify that they are only](#)

We know this is a major change for our members, so we encourage you to contact us with any questions. You can call our office at 306-525-3727 or email registration@suma.org.

Consultation Reminder

SUMA has been consulting with our members on developments in how the Ministry of Justice will distribute fine revenue. The final date to send in your response is next **Friday, November 1**. [Full details are available on our website](#), and you should email your response to [Sean McKenzie](#), Policy Analyst.

Get Ready for Building Canada Fund

Since the renewal of the Building Canada Fund was announced, details have been scarce. We want to alert you to an [update that came from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#) (FCM) earlier this month.

They tell us that the federal government has confirmed that the fund will be in place by **March 31, 2014**. Though the rules are not in place yet, the government has committed to consulting with FCM to design the program.

The most important part of the update is that the calls for applications are likely to come quickly, and turnaround times short. So to be prepared when the time comes, begin thinking about your local priorities and considering potential projects now. As always, watch our website and your inbox for more details as they are available.

SUMA and SARM Discuss Provincial Growth

Last week marked the anniversary of the release of the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth by Premier Wall, and the following day, leaders from SUMA and SARM met to discuss their shared roles and responsibilities in this time of unprecedented growth. The two associations have also agreed

[paying the municipal portion of their taxes, but not their education taxes?](#)

- [Can a municipality discontinue water service if a utility bill remains unpaid?](#)
- [Is a municipality required to tender a construction project?](#)
- [When the administrator is away, may the Mayor or Reeve and Deputy Mayor or Deputy Reeve sign cheques for the municipality?](#)
- [Does a municipality have a duty to maintain its roads in good condition?](#)
- [Can a council have an "in camera" session prior to a council or council committee meeting?](#)

Upcoming Grant Deadlines

Community Grants (Short-term Projects)

(October 31)

Community Vitality Program

(October 31)

Community Rink Affordability Grant

(November 30)

Museum Grant Program

(November 30)

For a full listing of grants, check the Grants section on [our website](#) under the Events tab.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Town of Eckville: Public Works Supervisor (October 21)

Woodlands County: Planning and Development Director (October 31)

City of Melville: Assistant City Clerk (October 31)

Town of La Ronge seeks Chief Administrative Officer (November 4)

RM of Pipestone: Manager of Public Works and Infrastructure (November 8)

Northern Village of Denare Beach: Public Works Employee (November 12)

Town of Esterhazy: Secretary/Treasurer (November 15)

City of Estevan: City Manager (November 22)

Village of Dinsmore: Administrator (When Filled)

City of Warman: City Manager (When Filled)

FOR SALE

Fire Truck (When Sold)

Fire Truck by Tender (When Sold)

to meet quarterly to discuss common interests and how we can work together to find solutions to the issues facing local governments, including:

- shared recreation and cultural services;
- shared emergency services;
- regional inter-municipal co-operation;
- district (regional) planning; and
- ensuring that local governments have the staff and financial resources to deal with the challenges and opportunities they face, and those that come with a growing province.

More information is available in the [joint media release](#).

Start Rolling on Resolutions

Resolutions have already started coming in; don't miss the **November 22** deadline for Convention 2014. It's just a month away, so be sure to have council discuss and endorse any resolutions before then.

Find the full details on submitting a resolution in the [Call for Resolutions](#), including the full details on submitting a resolution for Convention 2014 and for a basic template for creating your own resolution. Examples of past resolutions are available in [the Resolution Database](#).

Trans Canada Trail Needs You

The Trans Canada Trail is a network of trails that totals nearly 17,000 kilometers across Canada. It's been in the works since 1992 (Canada's 125th Anniversary), and aims for completion in time for the 150th anniversary in 2017. Saskatchewan sections of the trail include the Skytrail in Outlook, and sections in the Battlefords area, Saskatoon and Regina. But there are still 19 gaps in the trail across Saskatchewan. We need another 989 kilometers to connect the land bridge between Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The Trans Canada Trail Saskatchewan Vision 2017 Trail

Committee will begin meeting in November, and you can keep up with the work on the Trans Canada Trail [on their website](#). Urban municipalities are a critical partner in getting the trail completed; if you're passionate about your community, this is a wonderful way to make it better, and begin Canada's 150th anniversary celebrations early.

Keeping Up With saskdocs

The latest edition of the [saskdocs newsletter](#) is now available.

As always, it includes a message from the CEO, and this issue has news on new doctors in Humboldt, a Family Medicine Retreat for residents from the University of Saskatchewan, and more.

Regional Planning Summit in Regina

There are less than two weeks left to register for the Regional Planning for Growth Summit, taking place November 4-5 in Regina.

Your participation will help strengthen the commitment of communities to work together through a shared understanding of the need and importance of regional planning. It is important for all stakeholders to engage in productive discussions based on best practices, innovation, information sharing and interaction.

For more information or to register today please visit [ReginaPlanningSummit.ca](#).

For a full listing of ads, visit the [SUMA Classifieds](#) under the Urban Marketplace tab.



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.
Regina, SK S4P 3M7
suma@suma.org
<http://www.suma.org>

Did You Know...

The only lighthouse in Saskatchewan is at the north end of the town of Cochin.

It was built as a tourist attraction on the top of Pirot Hill overlooking Jackfish Lake. The lighthouse is 11.5 metres tall. You have to climb 153 steps to reach the top where you get a great view of Cochin and Jackfish lakes. The rotating beacon can be seen for miles.