



Keeping you informed

# President's Update



December 10, 2014

## ***Notes From the Board Meeting***

Last week, the SUMA Board of Directors gathered for the last time in 2014. We spent the day in Regina on December 5 to represent the interests of towns, villages, cities, resort villages, and northern municipalities.

The Convention Planning Committee gathered first in the morning to discuss some final details of **Convention 2015**. Final touches were made to the Convention agenda, and the committee approved a new format for the post-convention evaluation.

By mid-morning, the full Board convened. As always, it was a full agenda, but here are some of the highlights:

Working with Government Relations, UMAAS and SARM, SUMA has discussed proposed **boundary alteration guidelines** for the Saskatchewan Municipal Board. Following a round of consultations, principles for financial settlement are developed and will form the foundation for further talks. The Board has communicated to officials at the Ministry of Government Relations that they are comfortable with the principles and moving forward on this matter. SUMA staff, and directors Mike O'Donnell (City of Regina) and Ron Osika (Fort Qu'Appelle) will represent SUMA interests in these meetings.

The Board received a presentation from Mike Jordan, Director of Government Relations for the City of Saskatoon. The presentation looked at the **current and future demographics** of the province and explored what impact that will have on the future of the province. The **revenue and expenditure trends** for the Government of Saskatchewan were also reviewed with an outlook on how that may affect upcoming provincial budgets.

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The Board discussed the Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW) **Multi-Material Recycling Program** (MMRP), which will provide funding to municipalities for residential recycling collection. We have identified three principles necessary to success of the program:

- The program begins on January 1, 2015.
- MMSW conduct itself in an accountable and transparent fashion and convene the Advisory Committee.
- The province ensure regulatory compliance so that MMSW's further 25 per cent non-member funding reduction is eliminated as soon as possible.

We continue to work with MMSW, industry groups, the province, and our partner organizations to ensure the MMRP has full industry participation and funding.

The **2015 Host Hotel program** was approved. The full details will be released after the new contracts take effect March 1, 2015.

We reviewed and discussed **resolutions**. Of the 11 member resolutions, nine were approved for discussion at the resolutions session in February, where they will be joined by two resolutions from the Board. The full resolution package will be sent to member councils later this month.

The Board will gather before, during, and after Convention 2015 in Saskatoon, and the next regular Board meeting is scheduled for **March 27, 2015**.