



# Urban

The newsletter of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association

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voice

Inside this issue

## Hot start to a cold new year

Premier Wall, Minister Hutchinson signal that a new revenue sharing program is near

The provincial government has started 2009 on the right foot - at least, that's what representatives from Saskatchewan's municipalities are thinking. Premier Brad Wall and Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Hutchinson have been in the media talking about a new, more predictable revenue sharing program that delivers more dollars to Saskatchewan's municipalities.

In a CBC interview that aired on January 5, Premier Wall indicated that his government is looking at sharing PST revenues with the province's municipalities. Under this formula, the province would do away with the complex ad hoc calculations of recent years and offer municipalities a more predictable, simpler share in sales tax revenue, he said.

Minister Hutchinson also talked publicly about a new revenue sharing formula that would share sales tax revenue, and went on to emphasize the urgency of financial support to municipalities.

"Municipalities have made the point repeatedly and clearly - and I think very correctly - that the property tax base alone simply does not provide municipalities

with enough dollars to meet all of their ongoing requirements year-by-year. They provide a very wide range of services to their residents with a very narrow range of revenue sources," said Hutchinson in a recent Leader-Post interview.

SUMA President Allan Earle welcomed the province's New Year overtures, saying that revenue sharing remains the top priority for urban municipalities.

"When it comes to revenue sharing, municipalities have been banging at the door for at least 15 years. The number one priority for Saskatchewan's cities, towns and villages has long been a new revenue sharing program that delivers adequate funds in a predictable, transparent way," Earle said.

SUMA has worked closely with the province and other stakeholders to develop the revenue sharing proposal now being considered by the Provincial Cabinet. One of the proposal's recommendations is that revenue sharing should be linked to the PST, the option that is now being aired publicly by the Premier.

"SUMA has been working diligently with Municipal Affairs to put together a solid proposal for revenue sharing. So, to be at this stage after just 12 months - with the Provincial Cabinet considering our proposal, with the Premier and Minister Hutchinson talking about it publicly - it just goes to show how strong the government to government relationship in this province is," Earle said.

President Earle remains hopeful that municipalities will finally see a new revenue sharing program, adding the proposal that SUMA helped to develop is backed by all Saskatchewan municipalities - both urban and rural.

"SUMA and SARM are presenting a united front. We've gone together to the government and said 'Look, we fully support this. The whole province - urban and rural - is behind this revenue sharing proposal'. As a provincial government, that's as clear a signal as you'll ever hear," Earle said.

Progress on revenue sharing will be provided through SUMA's weekly Urban Update email.

It's Our Time: SUMA readies for its 104th Annual Convention

Saskatchewan recycling programs in dire straits in wake of global economic down turn

Nominations are being accepted for the Saskatchewan Municipal Awards

Struggling Canadian economy in need of infrastructure funding

SUMA welcomes Gary St. Onge and Regina Sagal-Hendry to the Board of Directors

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## President's *Voice*

Oh the weather outside is frightful ... hope your Christmas was delightful! Happy new year to all of our members and partners! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday season.

As we cast our eyes forward to what's coming up in 2009, we anticipate great things for Saskatchewan's urban municipalities - with one crucial long standing item in particular that remains at the forefront.

The Premier's comments in early January relating to a new revenue sharing formula linked to the PST were certainly encouraging. Joint research and discussion on shared areas of interest with the Province have provided a solid foundation towards defining a proper revenue sharing formula. This proposal is consistent with the work of the joint committee with SARM developed through the Municipal Sector Strategic Plan (MSSP) process.

We are pleased with the level of commitment and attention the new government has given to this file, and look forward to an official announcement that will secure predictable and sustainable funding for Saskatchewan's municipalities, benefiting all citizens of our Province.

January is time to get back to business after the holidays, and that's certainly the case at SUMA, where our board and staff are busily preparing for our 104th Annual Convention.

By now, you will have received bylaw changes and resolutions brought forward to our Convention. If, for some reason, you have not yet received your package, please contact our staff, who will be happy to assist you.

As usual, we have a full Convention agenda that includes sector meetings, resolution debates, bear pit session with the Provincial Cabinet and awards presentations, among many other agenda items. In addition to 'business', we've also set some time aside for 'pleasure', as Convention also provides an excellent opportunity to network with your colleagues from Saskatchewan's cities, towns and villages. In short, prepare to work, but prepare to have a good time, too!

The magnitude of SUMA's Annual Convention necessitates an 'all hands on deck' approach as our staff works to have everything in place by the time our delegates arrive in Saskatoon. From larger items, such as delegate transportation, awards programs and resolutions, to more minute details, like ensuring that everyone's name badge is spelled correctly, there is much work that goes on behind the scenes! I am truly grateful for the expertise and professionalism of our team, which enables us to host such a successful event. I hope that when you're at convention that you take a moment to say 'thank you' to those that help to make the event possible.

Best wishes to everyone for a great 2009. I look forward to seeing you all at Convention on February 1!

**Allan Earle, President**



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## CEO's *Voice*

Here we are: the start of another fiscal year for municipalities. Already a number of important events stand out on the municipal agenda for the coming year.

Of course, 2009 is a municipal election year for cities, towns and villages. As always, elected officials will be looking for all available options to balance municipal budgets and to ensure that local residents get the best delivery of services possible. The preparation of annual operating and capital budgets is always an excellent opportunity to consider the extensive array of products available through the SUMA Advantage program. From office supplies to heavy equipment tires, the SUMA Advantage line of products offers potential for significant cost savings. In addition to these group purchasing programs, SUMA also offers competitive rates on group benefits and group insurance for employees and elected officials.

2009 is also the last year to get ready for the new tangible asset reporting guidelines which will be required as part of the 2009 municipal audits. SUMA has been mandated by the Province to assist all municipalities with the implementation of these new guidelines. In the past few weeks, more than 750 municipal officials have attended workshops which were held across the Province, providing instructions on the essentials of tangible asset reporting. More sessions will be offered at the SUMA Convention.

In my last message, I shared the proposed work plan of the different groups working on the MSSP. There are many items on the agenda, and SUMA will engage on numerous files to address key issues affecting the municipal sector. Hoping that revenue sharing may soon be resolved, we are looking forward to reporting further progress on the Saskatchewan made infrastructure program, the multi-material recycling program, affordable housing and other files we are exploring with the Province.

By the time this issue goes to press, we will also have heard more from the Federal Government's proposed initiatives with respect to municipal infrastructure. SUMA President Allan Earle and I met with Minister Baird in Vancouver shortly before Christmas to reiterate the position issued by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. An injection of funds by the Federal Government to assist municipal governments with infrastructure projects is one of the most efficient ways to stimulate the economy.

Infrastructure funding as an economic stimulus is fair to Canadians, because it benefits everyone. It is efficient, because there is currently a backlog of "ready to go" projects which have been identified by cities, towns and villages throughout the country. Almost instantly, it creates new jobs, stimulates the local economy and further contributes back to the provincial and federal revenue streams through income tax and goods and services taxes. FCM has already estimated that these taxes combined would return 35 per cent of any federal spending on municipal infrastructure back to the provincial and federal governments.

In closing, the entire SUMA administration is looking forward to meeting with our elected officials in Saskatoon on February 2nd. As always, we hope that the content of our education sessions, plenary presentations and trade show will bring new thoughts and solutions to meet the everyday challenges of our municipal governments. Mostly, we know that the Convention is the perfect opportunity to meet colleagues and friends who share a common vision of civic government.

**Laurent Mougeot, MCIP**



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# February 1-4, 2009: *It's Our Time*

## Saskatoon set to host SUMA's 104th Annual Convention

A new Canadian Senator, bear pit session with Saskatchewan's Provincial Cabinet, trade show featuring 150 exhibitors, awards presentations and entertainment ... we'll have it all at the 2009 SUMA Annual Convention!

Convention is an important time for SUMA and its members because it offers the opportunity to review the policies and bylaws of the Association and to vote on the resolutions that provide direction for the coming year. The theme for the 2009 convention is "It's Our Time" which focuses on Saskatchewan's current economic boom. Sessions and discussions will highlight this topic and provide councils with valuable tools to assist them with the boom Saskatchewan is experiencing.

### Sunday Education Sessions

Sunday afternoon features 10 education sessions in two 90-minute time blocks.

- E1 - PSAB 3150: Tangible capital asset reporting (Administrators)
- E2 - Regional Planning for a Sustainable Future
- E3 - Paying for the RCMP: Where does your money go?
- E4 - SUMAssure: Insurance Management 101
- E5 - Labour Force Strategies and Employee Retention

The second block of sessions are:

- E6 - PSAB 3150: Tangible capital asset reporting (Elected Officials)
- E7 - Your Administrator: Getting the best advice
- E8 - Find that Money! Accessing and preparing grants for your municipality
- E9 - Disaster Planning: Are you ready?
- E10 - Residential Subdivisions: Cutting to the chase

### Monday Breakout Sessions

Three breakout sessions are offered:

- B1 - The Young and the Restless: Working with Generation Millennial
- B2 - Manage the Message, Manage the Media
- B3 - Growing Pains: Annexation and planning in Saskatchewan

### Keynote Address: Honourable Mike Duffy

Mike Duffy has embarked on a new career as a member of The Senate of Canada. After a lifetime in journalism, Mike left his post as the host of CTV's Mike Duffy Live to accept a new challenge in public service, representing his home province of PEI. Mike hopes to bring a new level of understanding of, and appreciation for the work and accomplishments of Canada's upper chamber.

During his career as a journalist, "Duff" was known to millions as the most authoritative broadcaster commenting on the political life of Canada. After decades on Parliament Hill, Mike Duffy was the "dean" of the Parliamentary Press Gallery. As the Toronto Star put it, he was the reporter to whom other journalists listened for insight. He now brings those skills and integrity to a new arena. Duffy is a former Visiting Fellow at Duke University and an ACTRA award-winner for live TV reporting. The Washington Journalism Review twice nominated him for the "Best in the Business" award, and in 1994 he was named to the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

### Plenary Sessions

#### Shifting Gears: The new economy and Enterprise Saskatchewan

Speaker for this session will be Dale Botting, CEO of Enterprise Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan's natural resources and commodities are in high demand. Our province is facing significant investment potential, and the way we do business is changing. What is expected from municipal governments? What roles can cities, towns and villages play as economic engines?

#### Doing it Right: Managing Saskatchewan's growth

Speakers are Lloyd Bertuschi, AUMA, and Roger Brekko, City of Lloydminster. This session will feature insight into growth and development in Alberta from both a political and administrative perspective. Having been subject to the "boom" and "bust" years of the past, successes and failures of Alberta's growth years will be featured, including what can we learn from them. The presentation will include a brief history, address challenges and opportunities, delve into issues such as planning, capital budgets, development, financial issues, and the continual process of negotiating/communicating with the Provinces from a regulatory and financial perspective.



**Over 1,000 municipal representatives and stakeholders from across Saskatchewan will gather in Saskatoon February 1-4.**

### Social Activities

#### The Saskatchewan Kaleidoscope: A Mosaic of Culture and Food

The party begins at 8 p.m on Sunday, February 1st. Join us as we travel the province to celebrate the diversity of Saskatchewan. This evening will provide you with great networking opportunities to meet your fellow delegates. A mosaic of food will be provided, along with cultural entertainment throughout the evening. Travel Saskatchewan with your SUMA Passport for a chance to win a trip anywhere in Canada - plus spending money!

#### Monday Evening – Board-hosted Hospitality Night

It's become a Convention tradition! Join the SUMA Board of Directors at the Hilton Garden Inn in the Commonwealth Ballroom for an evening of mingling with friends old and new. Try your luck at the 50/50 draw - proceeds will support the Mike Badham Scholarship Fund.

#### President's Banquet and Award Ceremony

The President's Banquet honours long-serving elected officials and municipal employees for their dedication to their municipality. Following the awards program, Johnny Bagpipes will entertain you with his comedy performance 'where Rock 'n Roll collides with the pipes'.

#### Partners' Program

A two-day program is planned for partners on Monday and Tuesday. Highlights of the two-day event include guest speakers from mid-life wellness to wine and food pairings, tour of Mendel Art Gallery and a special behind the scenes tour at the Western Development Museum.

#### Shuttle Service

Complimentary shuttle service is provided from the following hotels:

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- > Travelodge
- > Sandman
- > Delta Bessborough
- > Hilton Garden Inn
- > Country Inn & Suites

#### Municipal Marketplace

The Municipal Marketplace will host approximately 150 booths with products and services that focus on the municipal market. There will be scheduled trade show time on Monday and Tuesday to ensure enough time for meeting exhibitors.

A number of SUMA Advantage partners will also be at the tradeshow, including: Aon Reed Stenhouse; BMO Bank of Montreal; Concentra Financial; Connect Energy; Enterprise; Hertz Equipment Rental; Kal Tire; Kelln Solar; Laurie Artiss - The Pin People; Municipal World; Park Town Hotel; PermaLife Products Canada Ltd.; SaskTel; Signal Industries Ltd.; SUCCESS Office Systems; Supreme Basics; and Vadim Software.

SUMA also invites your town foreman, senior purchasing staff and public works staff to attend the tradeshow.

For more Convention information visit [www.suma.org](http://www.suma.org) or call SUMA at 525-3727.



## Tumbling prices have recycling programs in jeopardy

### Province must provide bridge funding to sustain municipal recycling programs

It's a sad economic reality: much like the value of your investment portfolio, prices for recyclable materials have fallen dramatically in the wake of the worldwide economic slow down. The value of materials such as cardboard, plastic, tin and paper have had their value fall to what are being described as 'unprecedented levels', leaving those operating recycling organizations and private companies in our province scrambling to find solutions.

A recent CBC News story by Niall McKenna reported that the Parkland Regional Waste Management Authority in East-Central Saskatchewan once made a profit of \$110 for every tonne of cardboard it collected. By November, prices had plummeted to \$50, and then down again, to the point where the cost of transportation exceeded any profit that would have been made.

While the short-term response to this challenge for many organizations like the Authority has been to stockpile materials with the intent to wait for an upward swing in prices, other organizations do not have the luxury of adopting this 'wait and see' approach. The current situation has some groups facing the risk of being shut down immediately, which would leave many communities with no alternative but to put recyclable materials into landfills. Another concern is the risk of losing the public's engagement and commitment to recycling, a problem that has groups like SUMA and the Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council (SWRC) encouraging the provincial government to take action.

In December, the SWRC sent a letter to the Premier, urging the province to provide immediate short-term funding for community recycling programs. While the province has not provided any money, Yorkton MLA Greg Ottenbreit has been appointed legislative secretary for recycling to Environment Minister Nancy Heppner. This is a step in the right direction as Ottenbreit, a former waste management operator, will fully understand the challenges facing recycling programs and can lend his experience to help shape the province's plans.

Currently, taxpayers fund recycling programs in Saskatchewan, but a plan to get industry to contribute has been in the works for some time. A Multi-Material Recycling Program (MMRP) would see industry and municipalities sharing the costs for recycling of paper, plastics, glass and tin. Establishing a MMRP would dramatically improve the prospects for recycling in the province, spreading responsibility for recycling more fairly across consumers, municipalities and industry.

But until a MMRP is up and running, low prices for recyclable materials present a market failure for waste management operators. An injection of cash is needed now to overcome free-falling market prices and sustain even basic recycling services. While the province tells us that there is no money available, many recycling programs continue their slide toward collapse.

The provincial government shouldn't allow a sudden drop in market prices to deliver a fatal blow to recycling in Saskatchewan, forcing recycling programs to collapse and spoiling the public's enthusiasm to recycle. The Saskatchewan public has embraced recycling, faithfully separating their household waste and diverting literally tonnes of garbage from municipal landfills every year. To overcome this market failure, the province should provide grant financing to ensure recycling programs' survival – and the public's appetite for recycling sustained until the MMRP is established.



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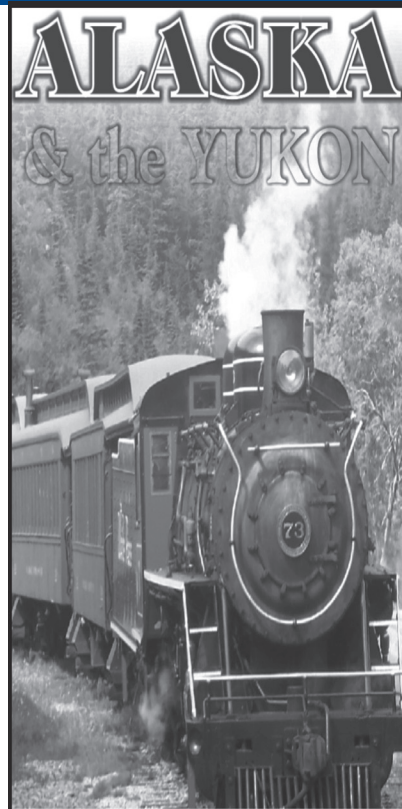
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# Up with infrastructure!

## Depressed Canadian economy needs infrastructure dollars in upcoming Federal budget

On January 27th, the federal government will release one of the most important budgets in Canadian history. With the Canadian economy showing more and more signs of deepening economic slow-down, the government is looking to provide a major economic boost.

Up until a few weeks ago, the Prime Minister and federal Finance Minister were rejecting any talk of a federal budget deficit. Since then, the deficit taboo has been lifted and options are being considered, including infrastructure spending, tax cuts, and support for specific industries and lenders.

### Balancing act

Seemingly all Canadians are lining up to tell the government how best to spend its money in 2009. Major corporations, banks, environmental groups, taxpayer associations, Chambers of Commerce, provincial and municipal governments – even the Canadian Armed Forces – are making their case for a piece of the stimulus pie.

Federal cabinet ministers are also hearing of the virtues of tax cuts,

which could boost the economy by putting money back in the pockets of Canadians, thereby raising consumer spending.

Support also exists for bail outs to major industries in order to save jobs. The feds are also hearing from provinces and, of course, municipalities, who maintain that infrastructure spending would create jobs and boost economic growth immediately and through the long-term.

With so many well-lobbed options on the table, the big question for the federal government is where to focus the stimulus spending. In short, what's the biggest bang for the buck?

While the Urban Voice goes to press, the federal government has yet to present its 2009 budget. Tax cuts, infrastructure spending and sector-specific support will undoubtedly be featured in the upcoming budget. The complex factors behind Canada's economic slow down, not to mention the complexities of federal politics at the moment, will require a sophisticated and comprehensive response.

### The case for infrastructure

SUMA's position is that the budget should give priority to infrastructure spending as the best way to boost the economy during this time of recession. Infrastructure spending will also provide the foundation for economic growth in the medium and long term. More than tax cuts, sector bail outs and any other option being presented, infrastructure spending will provide a ready economic stimulus, while guaranteeing that tax dollars stay in Canada, creating jobs and generating additional tax revenues.

In October 2008, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) released a study boasting the stimulus credentials of infrastructure spending. Among the major findings:

- A \$1 billion investment in upgrading roads, bridges and water mains would create more jobs and provide a greater economic stimulus than a \$2 billion tax cut.
- Every \$1 billion investment in new infrastructure will create more than 11,000 total jobs, including 5,500 new jobs in the construction industry.

• Every \$1 spent on infrastructure in Canada results in 35 cents for federal and provincial/territorial tax coffers, due to increased income and sales tax.

• Every \$1 spent creates a 17 cent saving for the private sector as roads, bridges and other infrastructure are improved.

Beyond the ability to fight off a recession, increased infrastructure spending would begin to address the crumbling state of municipal infrastructure in Canada – an issue that has been neglected for too long.

The most recent estimate places the (national) municipal infrastructure deficit at \$123 billion on existing infrastructure, with the number continuing to rise. As water and sewage systems, municipal roads and transit systems continue to age, the cost of maintenance multiplies. Furthermore, FCM estimates that a further \$115 billion will be required to build new infrastructure to service population and economic growth.

The case is clear - and the time is now. The federal government needs to get infrastructure dollars moving to projects immediately.

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## 2009 budget, facilitating growth on agenda at December Board Meeting

The SUMA Board gathered for its quarterly meeting in Regina on December 12-13.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2009 budget, which reflects recent changes to SUMA's administrative staff structure and a review of membership fees. Details will be shared with SUMA members in advance of the February 3 AGM at the SUMA Convention.

Reports were also provided in the following key areas:

### Revenue Sharing

Following the September 2008 SUMA board meeting, Municipal Affairs submitted the MSSP's proposed revenue sharing program to Cabinet with a recommendation to adopt a growth index equivalent to one per cent of the PST,

averaged over the previous three years.

Minister Hutchinson has confirmed that the proposal has been submitted to the Treasury Board.

In support of our efforts, SUMA has undertaken the following advocacy strategy to help ensure that the MSSP revenue sharing program is implemented by the province:

- Gained agreement with SARM that the MSSP proposal is acceptable, and should be implemented without alteration by the province.
- Communicated the joint agreement to the Minister, which represents virtually all municipalities in the province – to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Minister Hutchinson agrees that the joint position will help ensure the MSSP program is implemented. Furthermore, the Minister is confident that the 2009 budget will include a new revenue sharing program.

### Facilitating Growth

Municipal Affairs' proposed 'Facilitating Growth' process was endorsed by the Municipal Forum on November 27. The purpose of the process is to:

- Facilitate widespread growth around urban municipalities and most resort areas;
- Support the government's priority to secure the future, and ensure that Saskatchewan is ready for growth;
- Helping municipalities to manage growth; and,

- Address the need for improved regional planning for land-use and infrastructure, and conflict resolution.

The process will convene several different stakeholder groups including Municipal Affairs, SUMA, SARM, key provincial ministries, Enterprise Saskatchewan and industry representatives from various sectors.

This group will have a very broad, general mandate to analyze the current situation and identify opportunities to better facilitate economic growth in Saskatchewan's municipalities.

The next meeting of the SUMA Board of Directors will be April 3-4 in Regina.

## SUMA proudly welcomes Sagal-Hendry, St. Onge to Board of Directors

SUMA has had two relatively recent additions to our Board of Directors. Estevan Mayor Gary St. Onge joined the SUMA Board on December 16. Moose Jaw City Councillor Regina Sagal-Hendry's appointment was official on January 1, 2009. SUMA is proud to welcome these valuable additions to SUMA's Board.

### Gary St. Onge SUMA Director Southeast Region

Born in Torquay, Saskatchewan in 1946, Gary attended the University of Saskatchewan where he received a Bachelor of Education degree.

A lifelong educator, Gary spent his 33-year career in the Estevan Rural School Division, with 12 years in Torquay and 21 in the community of Bienfait. Gary also served as Bienfait School Principal for 15 years.

After retiring in 1999, Gary was elected to Estevan City Council in 2000, and was re-elected in 2003. In 2005, he was elected mayor in a by-election, and was then re-elected Mayor by acclamation in 2006. Gary is proud to represent Estevan, a city whose name is best exemplified by the motto, "Pure Energy".

Gary has been married to Connie for 38 years. His interests include sports of all kinds, particularly curling and golf.

### Regina Sagal-Hendry SUMA Director City of Moose Jaw

Regina has lived in Moose Jaw and surrounding area for most of her life. Born in Moose Jaw, she was raised in Marquis, where she graduated from high school.

Regina obtained her Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Regina, a Master's Diploma in Orff Education (music) and her A.R.C.T. in Singing Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. For the past 23 years, Regina has taught in Moose Jaw, and also served on many boards and organizations. She says that amongst her most rewarding experiences has been founding the Moose Jaw Children's Choir.

Regina and her husband Garth Hendry lived in both Alberta and B.C. before coming back to Moose Jaw to raise their family. 27 years later, they are still living in the same house. Regina and Garth have three children: Jeff, Jodie and Sommer.

A retired teacher, wife, mother, grandmother to five, and arts community member, Regina is ready to give her time and attention to the city of Moose Jaw. She especially wants to focus on the needs of the environment, and feels that she can be most effective at the grassroots level.



Regina Sagal-Hendry  
Councillor  
City of Moose Jaw



Gary St. Onge  
Mayor  
City of Estevan

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Swift Current

Councillor Regina Sagal-  
Hendry, Moose Jaw

Councillor Tiffany Paulsen  
Saskatoon

Mayor Gary St. Onge  
Estevan

Mayor Jim Scarrow  
Prince Albert

Mayor Bobby Woods  
Buffalo Narrows

Mayor Roland Zimmer  
Tisdale



# Taking Advantage

## Hertz Equipment Rental

Hertz is a provider of equipment rentals for all your municipal needs, offering a variety of short- and long-term equipment rentals, new and used equipment for sale and parts for purchase. SUMA members receive a 25 per cent discount on equipment rentals and 10 per cent discount on parts. Members looking to rent equipment can do so directly with Hertz, who have locations in Regina and Saskatoon and are able to serve all member municipalities.

Contact Curt Taylor at Hertz Equipment Rental directly at 306-242-5853 or 306-229-4455.

## Connect Energy

As the preferred supplier to the SUMA Natural Gas Program, Connect Energy is locally-owned and dedicated to serving the municipalities right here at home in Saskatchewan. Our team has 50+ years of combined energy experience in the province and are proud to currently supply over 125 members.

With Connect Energy you can lock in your natural gas rate for five years and protect yourself from future price spikes. The next SUMA Natural Gas Program offering will be coming in the mail soon. For more information contact E.J. Babey, Marketing Manager 306-979-0493.

## Michelin Tire

SUMA has a national account with Michelin to provide members with discounts on Michelin tires which can be purchased through any Kal Tire location. Kal Tire will provide you with product information and their price on Michelin tires. In order to receive the SUMA member price you must contact the SUMA office. When contacting Kal Tire you must identify your municipality as a SUMA member and provide them with account information. Please contact the SUMA office for the account number.

Contact your local Kal Tire branch or visit [www.kaltire.com](http://www.kaltire.com) to find your nearest Kal Tire location. For specific SUMA member pricing on Michelin tires, contact Tania Meier, Manager of Corporate Programs at 306-525-4379 or [tmeier@suma.org](mailto:tmeier@suma.org).

The **SUMA Advantage Program** exists to ensure that our members get the products and services that meets their needs at the right price.

If you need additional information about these programs or any SUMA Advantage programs offered, please contact Tania Meier, Manager of Corporate Programs at 306-525-4379 or [tmeier@suma.org](mailto:tmeier@suma.org). Visit [www.sumaadvantage.org](http://www.sumaadvantage.org) for complete program details.

## ATAP Infrastructure Management Ltd.

### Upcoming A.B.C. Operator Certification Preparation Courses Spring 2009

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Jan. 19-23 | Class I - Water Treatment & Distribution     |
| Feb. 16-20 | Class II - Water Treatment & Distribution    |
| Mar. 9-13  | Class I - Wastewater Treatment & Collection  |
| Mar. 23-27 | Class II - Wastewater Treatment & Collection |
| Apr. 20-24 | Class III-IV Water Treatment *               |

(\*If you are interested in ATAP's Class 3-4 Water Treatment Certification Preparation Course, please contact our office directly for information on registration.)

#### Workshops

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Jan. 14    | Confined Space Entry                    |
| Jan. 15    | WHMIS & Safety                          |
| Feb. 11    | Spring Maintenance (Collection Systems) |
| Feb. 12    | Water Main Swabbing                     |
| Apr. 15-16 | Gas Chlorination (2-day)                |

(All courses and workshops will be held in Saskatoon.)

#### Power Mobile Equipment (PME) Evaluation and Training

ATAP can provide on-site evaluation and training to help your community meet the new Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. Please contact our office or visit our website.

Registration forms and information may be found online ([www.atap.ca](http://www.atap.ca) under "NEWS")

#1 - 2225 Northridge Drive, Saskatoon, Sask. S7L 6X6  
Phone: 306.244.8828 Fax: 306.244.8829

Comprehensive and Cost-Effective Water & Wastewater Services



## Crown Shred & Recycling Inc.

offers central marketing facilities  
to every corner of Saskatchewan with  
locations in Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina

- Does your community need a cardboard, newspaper, paper, tin or a plastic recycling program?

If so, Crown Shred & Recycling Inc. will assist you in setting up an effective recycling program. We will accept all your baled newspaper, paper, cardboard, tin and plastic as well as pay you top market value!

- Do you need a down stroke baler to efficiently handle your recycling program?

Crown Shred & Recycling Inc. carries an ample supply of all handling equipment. We are able to provide you with all necessary information on down stroke balers that will suit your needs.

For the marketing of your material  
give Darlene Geleta a call at 306-949-4459

Phone (306) 545-5454 • Fax (306) 545-6125 • E-mail [csrregina@sasktel.net](mailto:csrregina@sasktel.net)  
[www.crownshredandrecycling.com](http://www.crownshredandrecycling.com)

## Thank you SaskPower.

Thanks, SaskPower, for sponsoring the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters Association training conferences.



5942

## SUMA's new Communications Officer: Rae Anne Furber

Greetings! I'm the newest member of the SUMA team, having begun my role as Communications Officer on December 15. I've been asked to tell you a bit about me ... so, here goes!

Born and raised in Prince Albert, I'm a communications consultant with over 10 years experience working with a range of clients, including those within federal, provincial and civic levels of government, private companies and professional associations. I've been employed in both the public and private sectors, most recently a four-year period at SaskPower.

I hold a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Saskatchewan, and am near completion of the University of Regina's Public Relations certificate program. I'm also a member of the International Association of Business Communicators.

My passions are music, sports, gardening – and fishing! I also enjoy travelling; my favourite place to visit in 2008 was Honolulu ... with honourable mentions to Halifax, and the family cabin at Emma Lake. Likely the quirkiest thing I could tell you about me is of my irrational fear of sloths ... fortunately, I'm not likely to run into one anytime soon!

I've been a board member of the Regina & District Food Bank for the past four years. I've also been involved in various volunteer capacities with other organizations, including the Saskatchewan Abilities Council, Special Olympics, YWCA of Regina and Camp Easter Seals Foundation. I have also coached a number of youth and high school soccer clubs, and am a former elite soccer player. (I stress the word 'former' ... I'm definitely not in game shape anymore!)



Rae Anne Furber joined SUMA on December 15, 2008

Coming to SUMA just prior to convention has been interesting. The biggest challenge has been watching everyone move at what seems to be a million miles an hour, while I try to figure out where we keep the pens! Kidding aside, the entire SUMA team has been very supportive since my arrival, and I'm really looking forward to learning more about municipalities, their functions and benefits for people in our province.

People are very important to me, which is why I hope that if you ever find yourself in the SUMA office that you'll stop by to say 'hello'. I look forward to meeting many of you at Convention, and also working with you in the weeks and months to come. See you in Saskatoon!

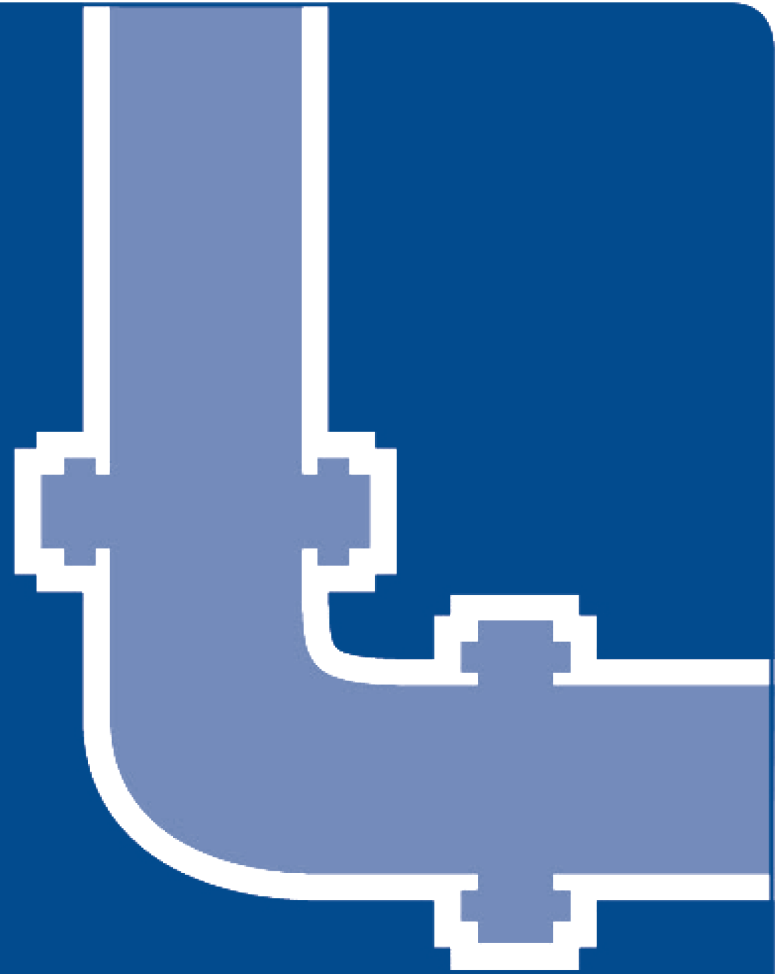
## Valued Connections

SaskWater values its "connection" to SUMA and all municipalities by providing solutions to water and wastewater challenges in Saskatchewan communities.



SaskWater honours SUMA's commitment to our customers with a Diamond Sponsorship of the 104th Annual SUMA Convention and keynote speaker Mike Duffy.

For more information on how to register for the convention Feb. 1-4, 2009 in Saskatoon, visit [www.suma.org](http://www.suma.org).



To learn more visit [www.saskwater.com](http://www.saskwater.com)  
or call toll free: 1-888-230-1111

SaskWater provides reliable and professional water and wastewater services for Saskatchewan.



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