



**April 6, 2010**

**News:**

**2010 Provincial Budget Response**

The 2010/2011 provincial budget confirmed what urban municipalities already knew – there will be no increase to the Municipal Operating Grant (MOG). “Municipalities were told to expect this outcome” said President Allan Earle. “So, we are not really pleased, but not surprised either.” To view the full response, please click [here](#).

**Share your best practices with the Saskatchewan Economic Development Association**

The Saskatchewan Economic Development Association is currently collecting information on best practices and building an inclusive inventory that will list the following categories:

- tax incentives and rebates;
- infrastructure and/or land incentives;
- labour market initiatives; and
- other incentives designed to impact community growth.

Please send this information to [alicia.curle@seda.sk.ca](mailto:alicia.curle@seda.sk.ca) by **April 30th, 2010**. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Alicia Curle at (306) 278-2498. To read the request letter, please click [here](#).

**Saskatchewan Cities Maintain Competitive Edge**

KPMG released its 2010 Competitive Alternatives Study today that ranks Saskatchewan's four major cities in the top 20 per cent of a 112 city comparison. In the overall city rankings, Moose Jaw was 11th, Regina 12th, Prince Albert 13th and Saskatoon 21st among all the 112 cities included in the study. To view more, please click [here](#).

**Provincial Toilet Replacement Rebate Program Expansion**

The Saskatchewan Watershed Authority has recently expanded the Provincial Toilet Replacement Rebate Program to make low-volume and dual-flush toilets installed in municipal, First Nations and non-profit community facilities. This applies to all qualifying toilets installed in these facilities retroactive to January 1, 2009. For more information on the program, please visit the [website](#).

**New Horizons for Seniors – April 16, 2010**

New Horizons for Seniors is now accepting applications for the Community Participation and Leadership grant. Funding provides one-time, start-up grant funding of up to \$25,000 for community-based projects that enable seniors to play an important role in their communities. It encourages seniors to contribute their skills, experience, and wisdom in support of social well-being in their communities, and helps to reduce their risk of social isolation. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

**Building Communities through Arts and Heritage Program – April 30, 2010**

If your community hosts a recurring festival, or plans to celebrate an important local anniversary, event organizers may be eligible for funding under the Government of Canada's Building Communities through Arts and Heritage Program. For more information on the program, please click [here](#). Please note this funding is available for non-profit groups.

## **2010 – 2011 Municipal Recycling Bridge Funding Program**

Recycling programs are getting \$1.75 million from the province's Go Green Fund to ensure they can continue providing services despite depressed markets and prices for salvage materials. SUMA will receive \$484,000 to support municipal recycling operations not already receiving funds through the Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres (SARC) or the Association of Regional Waste Management Authorities of Saskatchewan (ARWMAS). For the full news release, please click [here](#). In the next few weeks, SUMA will provide more detailed information on how the program will be administered this year.

## **Government of Canada consults Canadians on economic immigrant priorities**

The Government of Canada launched consultations to identify Canada's new and emerging labour market needs and how immigration can best respond to them. The consultations will help develop instructions to immigration officers on which economic immigration applications are eligible for processing. The following [questionnaire](#) is an opportunity for Canadians put provide inputs and identify key labour market needs. The survey will be available until April 16, 2010. For more information, please click [here](#).

## **2010 Budget Webinars**

A good number of municipalities that have finished their 2009 financial statements have been inquiring on how they perform the 2010 budgets in light of the tangible capital asset amortization expense. As indicated in the October 2009 financial statement workshops, it is recommended that municipalities develop a budget similar to the ones done in the past to properly determine overall cash needs.

To assist administrators through the process, a handful of webinars are going to be available for those who wish to receive some guidance over the internet. The webinar will be approximately 30 minutes in length, with it being delivered over GotoMeeting. A recorded webinar will be available on the [www.sasktca.ca](http://www.sasktca.ca) website for those who cannot make it to the scheduled webinars. Registration is being taken at <http://www.sasktca.ca/seminar-registration.php> under the 2010 budget module.

If there is any assistance required outside of the webinars, support is available by submitting an inquiry through the helpline at [www.sasktca.ca](http://www.sasktca.ca).

## **The Canadian Railway Hall of Fame Accepting Nominations for 2010**

The Canadian Railway Hall of Fame is currently accepting nominations to recognize individuals, communities and technologies that have been instrumental in building the freight and passenger infrastructure that plays such a vital role in Canada's economy. For more information on this award, please click [here](#).

## **Corporate Services:**

**Kal Tire** wants your casings! Your worn out OTR tires are worth money, click [here](#) to learn more.

## **Get the latest news, views and trends with Municipal World**

SUMA members and affiliated organizations are encouraged to 'stay in the loop' when it comes to issues affecting municipalities for just \$31.99 per year. Municipal World is a trusted magazine that offers the latest developments in an ever-changing world. To learn more, please click [here](#).

## **Suncorp Valuations is coming to a town near you!**

As a SUMA Advantage partner, [Suncorp Valuations](#) is pleased to provide a discount of 5% to all SUMA members. In addition, if we can combine our services with municipalities in your area, we will discount up to 15%.

Currently, we will be working in Langham, and are inviting municipalities in the vicinity to contact us for an insurance appraisal. The more business we can deliver, the more everyone will save!

We will be contacting other regions also. Feel free to contact us to get the ball rolling in your region.

Members can obtain additional information and/or a no obligation, no-cost appraisal proposal directly from Suncorp Valuations by contacting Zahid Cheema, Business Development Associate at 306-652-0311, or via email at <mailto:zahid.cheema@suncorpvaluations.com>

For more information on this program, [click here](#).

### **Natural Gas Offering Coming Your Way!**

[Connect Energy](#), a SUMA Advantage partner is preparing to send out a letter of offering to the SUMA members detailing a new way to purchase your natural gas called the "Wholesale Flex Plan". This new plan will allow you to buy gas in the same wholesale market as Saskatchewan's largest industrial users! The plan provides the opportunity for cost savings of up to 15% in a low spot market price environment as has been the case over the last year. It also offers you the option to switch over to Connect's Guaranteed Rate Plan at any time, at no cost; to protect you from a natural gas price rebound in the long-term. Natural Gas Markets are at a multi-year low; providing an excellent opportunity to take control of your natural gas costs for the short and/or long-term. With Connect Energy you can now choose the rate plan that makes sense for your Municipality!

Connect Energy is locally-owned and dedicated to serving municipal, commercial, institutional, and industrial natural gas users right here at home in Saskatchewan. Their team has 50+ years of combined energy experience in the province and is looking forward to the opportunity of putting that expertise to work for your Municipality. Call E.J. Babey, Marketing Manager 306.979.0493.

For more information on this program, [click here](#).

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **SPRA's 6th Annual Spring Training Symposium**

**April 11-15, 2010**

#### **Humboldt, Saskatchewan**

SPRA's Annual Spring Education and Training Symposium provides Recreation Directors, Facility Managers, Park Operators and Volunteers with practical and applicable knowledge. The Spring Education and Training Symposium offers specific education sessions to the parks and facilities sector. For more information on the symposium, please click [here](#).

#### **Saskatchewan Municipal Awards Luncheon**

**May 14, 2010**

#### **Regina, Saskatchewan**

Save the date and plan to attend the 4<sup>th</sup> annual awards luncheon and see what municipalities are accomplishing. The Selection Committee will be reviewing the 24 unique nominations next week and make their selections. This year's independent selection committee consists of:

- Senator Pamela Wallin
- Bob Linner (former City of Manager, City of Regina)
- Murray Mandryk (political columnist, Regina Leader Post)
- Holly Hetherington (Senior Partner, Executive Source), and
- Jim Angus (Administrator, RM of Harris No. 316)

Tickets for the luncheon are \$20.00 each and are available from [suma@suma.org](mailto:suma@suma.org) or 306-525-4386.

For more events, visit the [SUMA events calendar](#)

**Classifieds:**

- [Town of Kindersley: Water Treatment Plant Manager](#) – Open Until Filled
- [Town of Kindersley: Director of Finance](#) – Open Until Filled
- [Town of Wawota: Town Maintenance Person](#) – May 7, 2010
- [Village of Sedley: Village Foreman](#) – May 28, 2010
- [The Watrous Manitou Marketing Group: Community Development Officer](#) – April 16, 2010
- [Town of Wadena: Director of Public Works & Utilities](#) – Open Until Filled
- [Village of Hepburn: Urban Administrator](#) – April 9, 2010
- [RM of Rosthern: Administrator](#) – April 6, 2010
- [Village of Meota: Village Administrator](#) – March 31, 2010
- [Town of Churchbridge: Administrator](#) – Open until filled
- [Water Meters for Sale](#) – April 13, 2010
- [Garbage Truck For Sale](#) – April 28, 2010
- [SR440 Street Sweeper for Sale](#) – April 13, 2010
- [For Sale: Diesel Fuel Tank](#) – April 16, 2010