



October 4, 2010

News:

SUMA Director Gordon Hall passes

It is with great regret that SUMA informs its members that our Northwest Region Director, colleague and friend Gordon Hall passed away Saturday, October 2, 2010. We are awaiting notification of further details and funeral arrangements, and these will be posted on the [SUMA home page](#).

What do YOU want to see in the “new” Urban Update?

SUMA is updating the Update, and we are looking for direction from our readers. Please send an email this week to suma@suma.org to let us know what you like, or would like to see changed. More stories? Or less? An increased focus on grants? Or events? This is your publication, members – so take advantage of the right to help us make it better! And watch in coming weeks for a new, improved Update!

Northern Municipalities Act to come into effect January 1

In May 2010, *The Northern Municipalities Act, 2010* (NMA) received royal assent, and will come into effect Jan. 1, 2011. With initial recommendations from the NMA review committee, the ministry has completed reviewing the various regulations that have been in place pursuant to the old Act, for the purpose of developing one comprehensive regulation for the new Act. A copy of the drafting instructions for the NMA can be found [here](#). Further information can be found [here](#).

Amendments to *The Cities Regulations*

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is proposing amendments to *The Cities Regulations* for the purpose of incorporating provisions resulting from recent changes to *The Cities Act*, making changes to Municipal Public Accounts, plus providing clarification and addressing matters of a housekeeping nature. For particulars on the proposed amendments please go [here](#).

Sixth report on Canada’s Economic Action Plan released

The federal government released its sixth update on stimulus spending September 28. According to the report, there are 22,000 stimulus projects underway or complete in the country, and all infrastructure stimulus dollars have been allocated to specific projects. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities estimates that over half the projects are municipal. While it remains committed to keeping the program on schedule, the government has indicated in recent weeks it is open to providing some flexibility on the March 2011 deadline. For more about the stimulus update, visit [this site](#).

Ballot Box Barriers plans to engage women in municipal politics

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities recently released its report “Ballot Box Barriers: An action plan for engaging more women in the municipal democratic process”. It identifies barriers to and solutions for increasing women’s participation in municipal government as well as solutions to promote women’s involvement in municipal politics. A Facebook page dedicated to Ballot Box Barriers has been created and is available [here](#).

Economic Development Concessions Research Available Online

SEDA has recently completed 2010 research on Saskatchewan Economic Development Concessions, valuable tools used to influence decisions on where a new investment may locate. Commonly referred to as incentives, these are used among municipalities, regions and organizations in their efforts to foster economic growth by increasing assessment or other deliverables such as job creation. Responses were organized by Enterprise Region. Municipalities, regions and organizations wishing to update and/or add

relevant data to this publication for 2011 may forward their information to the SEDA office at seda@seda.sk.ca. The report can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

Grant of the Week:

Note: Last week's Grant of the Week had an outdated deadline and some content error. We apologize, and are repeating the grant with correct information.

Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program

The Transit Assistance for People with Disabilities Program (TAPD) is to provide financial assistance to participating cities and towns in support of special needs transportation services for persons with disabilities. Provincial support is provided because special needs transportation (paratransit) provides a critical link to social services and health clients and public housing residents for various purposes, as well as being essential to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Municipalities that receive operating funding under the TFD program must submit an Application for Capital Grant Approval, as well as a Vehicle Status Report for each vehicle requested by February 28th of each year for funding consideration in the subsequent provincial fiscal year. Currently, the program is not available to municipalities for new service due to budget constraints.

For Operating Assistance, municipalities must submit an Application for Operating Assistance either annually or quarterly (cities).

For more information click [here](#).

For more funding opportunities, please check out the grant section of SUMA's webpage by clicking [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

SUMA Fall Regional Meetings

October 19 – November 9

Tobin Lake, Big River, Unity, Maple Creek, Togo, Broadview and Pilot Butte, SK

Make plans to attend the upcoming fall regional meetings in your region! For dates and agendas (as they are finalized) please visit the [SUMA regional meetings page](#).

Ahead of the Curve: Tapping into the Prairies' Rich Leadership History

October 29, 2010

Saskatoon, SK

Ahead of the Curve is a Centre for Civic Governance Forum for locally-elected leaders. Workshops targeted to trustees and councilors will spur discussion on climate change solutions, engaging community members in sustainable planning, water safety and cleanliness, and more. For registration information and agenda updates visit [this site](#).

For more events, visit the [SUMA Urban Update Events](#) page.

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

Classifieds:

Positions Available:

- [Town of Carnduff: Administrator](#) – When Filled
- [Town of Black Diamond: Public Works Equipment Operator II](#) – When filled
- [Town of Abernethy: Maintenance/Water Plant Operator](#) – October 15, 2010