



Keeping you informed

President's Update



September 28, 2016

Notes From the Board Meeting

The SUMA Board of Directors gathered on September 23 for the last time before the 2016 municipal elections.

The morning opened with a Convention Planning Committee meeting, where details started to come together for **Convention 2017**. Rates were set at \$325 for early-bird member registration (\$425 after the early-bird deadline), with tickets for the Welcome Reception going for \$30 and the President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony for \$60.

The celebration of Canada's 150 years at Sunday night's Welcome Reception is shaping up, with **Heidi Munro and her six-piece jazz band** confirmed as the entertainment for that evening.

Expect a busy dance floor for the entire President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony, with **Dance Saskatchewan** on board to provide three dances during dinner to showcase the diverse shape of urban Saskatchewan - followed by **Wonderland**, the one-hit-wonder cover band that will keep you dancing all night.

The agenda for February 5-8 is now set, including education and breakout session topics. Watch for more details on these items as **we approach registration**, which is set to open on November 10. We'll keep you updated in [Urban Update](#), [Urban Voice](#), on the [convention page](#) of the website, and more.

The full Board gathered mid-morning and one of the first agenda items was a meeting with **new Minister of Government Relations Donna Harpauer**. During our time with the minister, we discussed infrastructure, and our desire to strike a consultation protocol agreement between the province and SUMA and SARM on behalf of municipalities.

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As usual, the rest of our meeting covered a variety of issues.

Some highlights:

- We approved the **election rules and procedures** for the upcoming elections of SUMA's Regional Directors and Executive Committee members.
- The Board reviewed and **approved the workplans** of the Policy and Communications team and the Corporate Programs and Services team.
- We reviewed work we've done with others on **aquatic invasive species**, including the Minister and Deputy Minister of the Environment. The Board will support the call for the provincial government to strike a committee to bring partners and stakeholders together to identify effective ways to avoid the infestation of Saskatchewan waterbodies by these invasive species.
- We discussed the **potential effects of marijuana legalization** on municipal bylaws, building inspections, and fire services.
- The Board supported the **proposed Provincial Grade Crossing Regulations**.
- We discussed the **Prairie Valley School Division v Pilot Butte** [decision from the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal](#), which confirmed the jurisdiction of municipalities to levy special assessments on school division property for infrastructure improvements under [The Local Improvements Act, 1993](#).

Resolutions Deadline Approaches

Though **we accept resolutions** all year long, to be considered for Convention 2017, we need your resolution by Friday, October 21. All the details on how to submit are in [the official call](#) for resolutions.

If you're interested in the responses we've received on resolutions passed since Convention 1997, you can visit the [resolutions database on our website](#). Search by term, sponsoring community, or year to see the resolution and any responses we may have received.