



The Office of Mayor Charlie Clark

# Media Release

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## **Provincial Cap to Grants-In-Lieu does not help Saskatoon or 99 other cities, towns and villages.**

March 31, 2017: Saskatoon: The provincial government has just [announced](#) it will cap the impact of its proposed Grants-In-Lieu (GIL) program cut to the equivalent of 30 per cent of what municipalities receive in revenue sharing.

“While I recognize that this benefits nine communities, there are still 100 in the exact same situation,” says Mayor Charlie Clark. “When we met with the provincial government this past Wednesday, we discussed the importance of both short and long-term options that were fair and equitable.

“This still leaves Saskatoon with no relief or clarity about what we need to do with our 2017 budget.”

However, Mayor Clark is encouraged it appears the GIL cap is a “one-year measure.” This would allow SUMA to suggest alternative short and long-term options that he, Regina Mayor Michael Fougere, Yorkton Mayor Bob Maloney, and SUMA President Gordon Barnhart resolved they would bring forward to the Province.

Clark understands the provincial government would like to eliminate the GIL program, but says there needs to be some funding arrangement to properly pay for government-owned property on municipal land.

“The GIL is a long-standing commitment to municipalities for services provided to Crown Corporations. Changing the GIL program the way that happened, is an arbitrary measure that creates a long-term funding problem for cities, towns and villages.

“We are completely open to having a conversation about the inequities in the GIL program and how we can come up with a long-term solution.”

Clark adds that while he recognizes today’s announcement provides some relief to smaller cities, he remains focused on finding a resolution and viable alternatives.

“We have a lot more talking to do; to make sure we have a sustainable plan going forward.”

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