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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUMA Calls on the Saskatchewan Government to Implement Cannabis Legalization Strategy

The Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) is calling on the provincial government to begin consulting on a cannabis legalization strategy, and provide a legislative framework for Saskatchewan hometowns to build on.

Our hometowns will be on the front lines of controlling cannabis production, sales, and consumption in Saskatchewan.

“Municipalities have to worry about where they will allow cannabis producers and retailers to set up shop, and how we will enforce bylaws on buildings, production, and consumption,” said SUMA President, Gordon Barnhart. “We can’t even begin some of that work until we know what kind of regulatory system the province will put in place.”

Many other provinces are well on their way toward a full regulatory regime, with some choosing to heavily restrict cannabis production, sales, and consumption, while others have chosen to leave many decisions up to municipal governments.

“Already, I’m hearing from members who have producers and retailers interested in their communities,” said Barnhart. “July 1, 2018, will be here before we know it — whether we are ready or not. The Government of Saskatchewan needs to start working with stakeholders on a plan for cannabis regulation, and they need to do it soon.”

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For more information on how cannabis legalization affects municipalities, please visit www.suma.org. To arrange an interview, please contact:

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Founded in 1905, SUMA is the voice of Saskatchewan’s hometowns.