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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 2018-19 Budget Maintaining Support for Saskatchewan Hometowns

The Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) is relieved to see that today's provincial budget is maintaining support for Saskatchewan hometowns.

In today's budget, the provincial government is reinstating the SaskEnergy municipal surcharge to 109 of our municipalities who saw it cut last year. The surcharge will also be extended to all Saskatchewan cities, towns and villages.

"We appreciate the return of SaskEnergy funding to our 109 municipalities that lost out last year," said SUMA President Gordon Barnhart. "This funding helps our municipalities provide instrumental services."

Revenue sharing related to PST is set to decrease from last year as expected. SUMA welcomes the opportunity for an open discussion with the provincial government on the future of the revenue sharing program.

"We didn't get all that we hoped for, but we understand that the province is facing tough economic times," said Barnhart. "We look forward to continuing in an open consultation process."

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President Barnhart will be available in the rotunda of the Legislature for comment this afternoon. For more information visit www.suma.org, or to arrange an interview please contact:

Sean McKenzie Senior Policy Advisor Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association Telephone: 306-552-5283 <u>smckenzie@suma.org</u>

Founded in 1905, SUMA is the voice of urban Saskatchewan, representing cities, towns, and villages.